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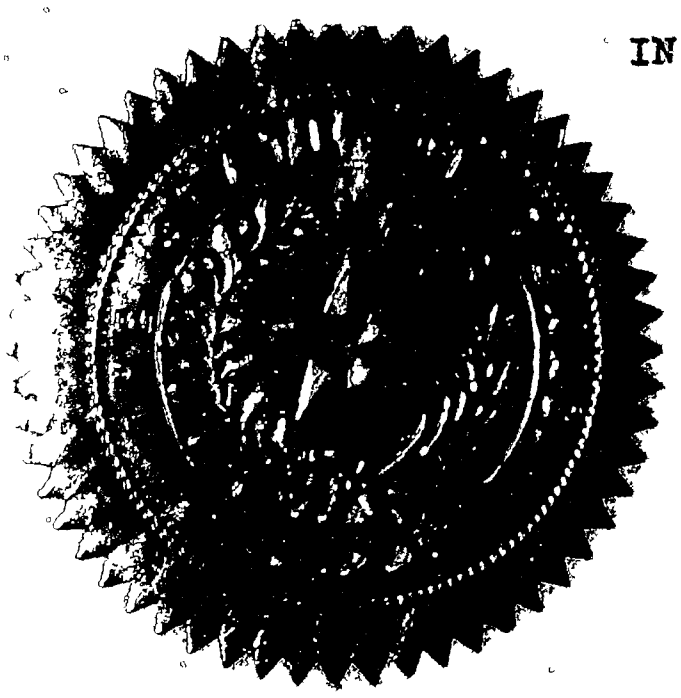
THE STATE OF TEXAS,

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

I, W. B. TOWNSEND, Secretary of State of the State of Texas, DO HEREBY CERTIFY, That the records of this Department show that William McFarland, R. H. Foote, E. O. Legrand and John C. Brooke were the Chief Justices of San Augustine County, Texas, from 1837 to 1840, ~~inclusive.~~



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused to be impressed hereon the Seal of State, at my office in the City of Austin, Texas, on this the 8th day of September, A. D., 1910.

W B Townsend

Secretary of State.

6

To the Hon. S. F. Austin
Sec'y. of State.

New Orleans.
Nov. 28. 1836.

Sir,

We have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your favors 12th. & 19th inst. The blank books stationary &c. ordered in the latter will be forwarded by the first conveyance as also some blank books ordered by his Excellency the President.

The Julius Cesar arrived a few hours since & Mr Wharton came passenger in her & we have not yet seen him. We are anxious to hear the result of the Messrs Guerra & Paduani to Santa Anna. We are destitute of any late news from Mexico.

We yesterday received a letter from Mr. Treat of N. York (who we had appointed as Agent for that State which he was obliged to decline as it is his intention soon to visit Europe) T. Toby & Brothers dated 11th inst. in which he states that the Brutus & Invincible had relation to, not yet sailed for want of funds, that the friends of Texas had done the Brutus all they could but it was impossible to effect sale of scrip & it Invincible was the only way to raise money, but he had written S. M. not sailed Williams who we believe has done something in Virginia, funds wanted. That it would not be necessary to make any purchases of supplies as I had instructed him, and if he was in possession of funds to apply them to the outfit of these vessels. We were led to believe a short time since that these vessels were now on their way to Texas that funds had been provided sufficient to get them off, but it appears from the statement of Judge Woodward (who goes down by this conveyance) were for the purchase of an Armed Barque then lying in the harbour of New York. Mr Sypes was also in N. York they were making their best exertions to allow these two vessels to sail. Money matters had been & were still in a very deranged state through our whole country & you will perceive by the papers that 2½ pr. ct. pr. month has been paid in N. York for the very best paper, & still continues at that rate. Money cannot be raised without paying exorbitant rates of interest. Col. Houston succeeded in his sales of Scrip by taking good paper @ 6 & 12 mo. which he was enabled to negotiate for clothing provision &c.

The Schr. Congress has a number of passengers for the Brazos & will land there if the weather is fine, if not she will proceed direct to Matagorda, as Schr. Congress 75 emigrants of Gen. Chambers Brigade. she has on board about 300, bls Gov't. Stores, & 75 emigrants Gen. Chambers Brigade.

Very Respectfully your Obt Servt.

Signed

T. Toby & Brothers

3

Steam Boat Gen. Gaines.
near Natchez.
Dec. 2nd 1836.

To the Hon. S. F. Austin
Sec. of State.

Dear Sir,

I write you from a Steam Boat which from the power of its engine shakes ten times more than any I ever travelled on. But when an idea occurs I will continue to communicate it to you at the moment for fear of forgetting it.

All of my Notes have been written under the most disadvantageous circumstances at moments hourly snatched from other urgent business, generally amid the clamours of a crowd or under the pressing importunities of the vessel or the person who was to bear the letter. This will in your justice & kindness apologize for both the manner & matter of all of my despatches until I get to Washington when & where I will be enabled to write more composedly & in a fair hand, until then you will I am confident attribute whatever may seem too laconic or dictatorial, blunt or incorrect to anything but intention.

In my general instructions you assure that "should I not be formally received as Minister before recognition you have furnished me with credentials to act as Agent for the time. No such credentials are among my papers & I need not urge upon you the necessity of forwarding them forthwith.

By superscribing all of your letters with the words "to be forwarded by the Express Mail" they will reach Washington in 5 days from N. Orleans.

Do hurry that Act waiving being a Catholic &c &c. and also the Judiciary Act through as fast as possible, I cannot get along without them.

Wm H. Wharton.
protest to Gen. Jackson against Mexico selling Texas &c

I believe I told you at Washington that after my protest to General Jackson against a sale of Texas by Mexico which was at first supposed to be Gorotiras business I had a long & as I conceived demi official conversation with Donelson (private secretary) in which he stated that if the U. S chose to give Mexico a few millions for a quit claim of Texas by way of hush money leaving to Texas the arrangement of the terms of her annexation that Texas ought not through pride to object to it. I answered then as I will again unless otherwise instructed, namely that the Treaty between Texas & the U. States must precede the hush money to Mexico. That after Texas was annexed the U. States might give what she pleased, Texas for her part would never give Mexico anything but lead in purchase of peace & Independence.

Write me fully on this subject. Myself & family are in good health with the exception of colds.

Under every disadvantage & in great haste I have the honor to be yours Wm H. Wharton

P.S. I am greatly concerned about my expence money. After wm. I had to lay out in Orleans & also to furnish Wife I have not a $100. Do write to Toby to help me all he can. Money is wm. out-fit & 3 pr. Ct. pr. m. By reference to Elliotts Diplomatic Code page years salary 81 you will find I am right about the advance of outfit & years salary.

W. H. W.

New Orleans,
Dec. 3rd 1834

To the Hon.
S. F. Austin
Sec.y of State

Dear Sir,

Enclosed be pleased to find a letter sent to our Office to be forwarded to Gen. Santa Anna from his Secretary Senr. D. Martinez Cono, concerning a Diamond But=ton - rather cutting.

read it

Mr Thos. Toby will address you fully pr.

Schr. Julius Cesar.

Your Obt Servt.
Thos. Toby & Brothers
pr. T. Brent Clark

New Orleans
Dec. 3rd 1834.

To the Hon.
S. F. Austin
Sec.y of State.

Dear Sir,

We forward all letters to you till such time as we hear of Post Masters being appointed at the different Ports.

In haste

Your Obt Servts.
Thos. Toby & Brothers
pr. T. Brent Clark

New Orleans
Dec. 4. 1834

To the Hon.
S. F. Austin
Sec.y of State.

Sir

Enclosed you have invoice Mr. T. Toby & Bro: bill lading Two Trunks & Three boxes, cont.g Books & Station relating Books for the Executive, State & Pay Department agreeably to stationery orders. You will have to assort them after arrival as packed up indiscriminately. The first five

were ordered by his Excellency Sam. Houston, and the latter written by his predecessor previous to his resignation. The Julius Cesar having filled up so rapidly we cannot forward by her the balance of your order say Candlesticks Candles &c.

The regulations of the U. States in relation to the four departments State, & Elliotts Diplomatic Code are not to be had in this City.

advanced $100 to Mr. Wharton &c.

The hon. W. H. Wharton left here the day after his arrival via the west for Washington — agreeably to your instructions we advanced him one thousand dollars & taken his Draft on the security of the money for that amount.

We are apprehensive that the pressure in the money market which still exists & undoubted paper still sells in N. York @ 2½% pm. will prevent the commissioners from effecting any part of the loan five millions dollars. We find it difficult to fund, & we are compelled to furnish many for the use of the Gov.t out of our own funds, having not received anything for acc.t the Gov.t for some months past.

The money market here is better than to the Eastward but good paper is @ 2% pm.

Gen. M. Hunt will hand you this. A part of his Brigade will leave to morrow in the Brig Henry for Matagorda.

Very Respectfully your Obt.

T. Toby & Bro.

New Orleans
Dec. 8. 1836

To the Hon.
S. F. Austin
Sec.y of State

Dear Sir

The Sch. Julius Cesar did not sail till yesterday & from some unforseen circumstance our letter Bag was not put on board, however we send it with sundry other packages pr. Sch. Henry, Capt. Grimes who leaves to day, & we have instructed him to touch off the mouth of the Brazos on his way to Matagorda.

latest papers.

Sending you by this opportunity our

We remain Sir, with consideration
Your Obt. Servts

Thos. Toby & Bro.

Columbia
Dec. 21st 1834

To the Hon.
S. F. Austin
Sec.y of State

Sir

I take the liberty to ask of you (as your knowledge on that point than any other man in the country) what Mr. B. Menard do you think is the probable quantities of Land granted by the Govern.t relative to the of Coahuila & Texas to individuals & contracted to different empressarios granting of land (I mean those that are likely to fulfil those contracts) and also the by Coahuila & amount of Land granted by this Government, My reason for such a Tran. & by this request is to ascertain as near as possible the extent of our public domain Government as it will be necessary for me to be well informed of our situation and resource in discharging the duties of my mission.

Very Respectfully &c

R. M. B. Menard

New Orleans
Dec. 24. 1834

To the Hon.
S. F. Austin
Sec. of State

Sir

Enclosed we hand you bill of lading of one Box cont.g a screw press for your Department & some Books certificates for the pay master. Also a bundle cont.g Alphabets omitted in former Shipments which please distribute as required by the other Departments.

Very Respectfully
your Ob.t Serv.ts

T. Toby & Bro.

P. S. Mr P. W. Grayson reached here this day from Louisville on his way home.

New Orleans
Dec. 26. 1834

To the Hon.
S. F. Austin
Sec.y of State

Dear Sir

Owing to the inclemency of the weather the last two days the Sch.r Texas has not been able to go to sea, she leaves this evening.

The express Mail has just arrived not a word in regard to the health of President Jackson.

We had the pleasure of a visit from Mr. Yates who delivered to us your letters under date ultimo. with one enclosed for Mr Martinez, mexican C

we will immediately commence negotiations with him & will apprise you of the result by first opportunity.

We forward to his Excellency our latest northern papers.

Remaining very respectfully
Your Obt. Servts

T. Toby & Bro.
per T. Bunt Clarke

Translation
by M. Amory Ch. Clerk State Deptt.
May 2nd 1839.

To the Hon.
S. F. Austin
Sec. of State
Sir

Mexican Consulate
New Orleans
Dec. 29. 1835

The 27th. inst. Thomas Toby Agent for F. P. Martinez Texas at this place handed me your letter directed to me dated relative to 30th. ultimo for the purpose of opening through me a negotiation the exchange for exchange of prisoners on the basis therein contained under five different heads.

By the American Brig D. H. Miller Capt. Driscoll which on said 27th. sailed for Tampico I made known to the president ad interim of the Republic your communication & I shall avail myself of the earliest opportunity to acquaint you with his decision.

Mean time I cordially reciprocate your courtesy as well as assure you of my personal consideration & respect.

God & Liberty.

Francisco Pizzaro Martinez

Gen. S. F. Austin
Dear Friend

New Orleans
Jan. 4. 1836

I wrote you a letter the 28th. ultimo to go by the De Kalb but the vessel sailed without my knowledge and left my letters here.

I found on enquiring that the Govt. seal sent by Toby was entirely too small for use, & have sent another by this vessel & some letters to go by the same seal therewith. The press has been sent & the seal for your Department is not yet done. Mr Merle informs me he has

received no orders to get a Mexican paper for you, but will attend to it with pleasure if you send an order. I think you will receive by the return of the President's message to Congress, on the subject of the recognition of Texas, that he is determined to pursue the course that I mentioned in my letter of the 28th ultimo viz, to obtain Texas from Mexico under the Treaty of 1828.

May I urge on you the necessity of providing funds for the payment of printing bills which with the engraving Bill will amount to something like $500.

A. J. Yates

We have heard nothing of the Texiana on board Velasco from the Brazos & begin to fear that she is lost in a numbers gale, as her time of arrival is long past. There were several generally from the Brazos Merchants intending to come out in her.

I have given a letter to my friend Col. McIntosh of Georgia to present to you. He has been aiding General Hunt in the collection of his troops & I think you will find him a valuable acquaintance.

In regard to the exchange of prisoners I was some what surprised at Mr Toby's expressing a desire of a private interview with the Consul — I am inclined to think however that it was done for the purpose of assuming to himself the credit of the transaction — But I do not know him well enough to say so.

I remain truly yours

A. J. Yates

New Orleans
Jan. 4. 1837.

His Excellency
Gen. M. F. Austin
Sec'y of State &c &c

In compliance with your instructions of 12th Dec. last I called on Messrs A. Toby & Bro. & enquired what had been done in relation to the proposition from the Govern. of Texas for the exchange of prisoners — Thos. Toby Esq informed me that the letter to the Mexican Consul & their instructions on the subject from your Department had just been received. The letter was shewed me by Mr Toby & I shewed him your letter and instructions to me, but he seemed of opinion the matter could be managed without any instructions of another person & desired to have the interview with the Consul alone. He has had that interview & received a written reply the tenor of which is favorable & the original he will no doubt send by the first opportunity.

I remain Sir, very respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.

A. J. Yates

A. J. Yates

Washington City
Jan. 8. 1837.

To the Hon.
Secy. of State
Republic of Texas

The petition of Anthony Plantou a resident of the City of Philadelphia has invented an improvement in the construction of Rail ways, navigating Canals with power of Steam without injuring the banks & shallow streams for features & without the necessity of making them deeper. Another invention in an improvement in the construction of Rail Roads as well as that of Cars. The description of those improvements are herewith transmitted. Your petitioner prays a patent aforesaid from the Government of Texas as afor.d & that letters of patent may be forwarded him. &c.

A. Plantou

San Jacinto
Jan. 9. 1837

Hon. Thos. J. Rusk
Secy. of State

Dear Sir

A Person relative to the organization of the Militia

I have been informed that I have been elected by the General Congress of this Republic, Chief Justice of the County of Harrisburg. I received this intelligence through the medium of the newspaper three weeks since — through the representative of this district two weeks since. But I have received no notice from the department of State on the subject. I see through the country in the papers which is employed to publish the Laws of the Republic, acts of Congress, which, are required to be immediately carried into effect by the Chief Justice of the County — yet I see not the law creating County Courts. Yesterday I received a handbill with the printed name of William S. Fisher appended, requiring the Chief Justices immediately to organize the Militia according to law, but addressed to no one.

The necessity of an immediate organization of the Militia induces me as we have no magistrate to proceed to-morrow to Harrisburg & take the oath of Office & proceed to organize the Militia. I shall do no other business till I receive an answer to this, & if in the absence of information I should do wrong I shall have done no harm. Please write me (if in Office) whether I shall understand the names of the heads of departments appended to any paragraph in the "Telegraph" or to hand bills in print as official communications & to act on them accordingly; whether I receive any communications from any other department but that of State, & whether in all cases I must have the laws before acting on them.

You must be aware that none but a lawyer can pretend to do law business correctly. It

is extremely awkward to undertake a kind of business of which one is entirely ignorant of all the rules & forms of proceeding. I believe I am a good soldier but I shall make a very indifferent probate judge or Notary Public.

Your Friend

A. Briscoe

P.S. I shall write again from Harrisburg lest this should miscarry.

Hon. Thos. J. Rusk
Sec'y of State

Harrisburg,
Jan. 11. 1837

A. Briscoe
relative to
the organiz-
-ation of the
Militia-

Dear Sir,

I wrote you on the 9th. inst from San Jacinto, that I deemed it necessary to take on myself the duties of Chief Justice of the County Court of my County, so far as concerns the immediate organization of the Militia. I I have received no official intelligence that I had been appointed to the Office, but supposing that such neglect was caused by the late illness of Gen. Austin. I have "taken the responsibility" of dividing my County into Captains beats & have issued Of=ficially orders for Militia elections. If I have done wrong it will produce no bad results. I will not act in any other business till I receive an answer to this or my last letter. My County is very much disorganized, & is entirely without Magistrates. I have not seen the law creating County Courts, or I would know more of my own duties. I came up here intending to take the oath of Office, but the Hon. Rob. Wilson had left town before I left. I am consequently acting with=out the semblance of right.

Your Friend & Obt. Serv.

A. Briscoe

Hon. S. F. Austin
Sec'y of State.

Mobile,
Jan. 11. 1837

H. Castleff
relative to the
Recognition

Dear Sir,

After an unavoidable detention of eleven & amiza=days at Velasco & a most tedious & disagreable voyage of fourteen tion of days I arrived at New Orleans on the night of the 7th inst. It Injury by gave me great pain to learn from Maj. Barnes that you had be Texas State, extremely ill — I sincerely trust that this letter may find you a State of rapid convalescence.

Your various requests I attende=
as far as was practicable on a day of general idleness.

festivity. Messrs Toby & Merle I was unable to see. Mr Grayson is in New Orleans. On monday the 9th I took passage for this place. The Piper had not then arrived although she left Velasco on the same day with the Julius Cesar. Col. Turner is on board of her & has in his charge the Servje intended for David White Esq. of this place.

You have doubtless by this time received President Jackson's message in relation to Texian affairs. I cannot express the regret with which I gradually awoke to the unwelcome truth that he is opposed to the immediate recognition of Texian Independence — I did not anticipate so cold blooded a policy from him. There is something within me however that whispers that the message was a message of expediency not intended to sway the Congress from a just & generous measure; but to lull the jealousy of foreign powers, and gull the national vanity of miserable Mexico, while the work goes not the less surely on, & approaches the consummation of all that you most desire; not only recognition but annexation likewise. A resolution has passed the lower house of the Legislature of Kentucky requiring their representatives in Congress to vote in favor of recognition. There can be no doubt, if one can form an opinion from what he sees & hears, that our Independence will be recognized by a large majority. The message is supposed to have been written by Mr Van Buren, if so it may be regarded as an omen of the ungenerous policy which he has determined to pursue in relation to Texas — it matters not — it will make his administration unpopular, at the very outset. Texas has many strong friends in Congress & indeed the south & west are already arraigning their strength in her favor — I greatly fear that the opposition will identify themselves with Texian interests for the selfish purpose of restoring their fallen party to power & breaking down the next administration. I feel confident that the questions of recognition & annexation will produce a general splitting up of the old democratic party and I devoutly trust that the annexation of Texas may be the result. I would not have ventured to express the crude ideas of so inexperienced a mind as my own had I not been writing to one who I know will view them with indulgence, appreciate them as ingenuously given & not regard them as emanating from an intrusive or presumptuous disposition.

I shall set off to morrow for Washington & if not unusually unlucky will arrive there by 25th inst.

Please accept my sincere wishes for your health & happiness & with sentiments of high consideration & respect, I have the honor to be your obt. Servt.

F. Cattett

Richmond
Fort Bend County
Jan. 13. 1837.

Wyly Martin
return of
Election, and
Location of
County Seat.

To the Hon.
Sec'y. of State,
Sir,

At a meeting of the qualified Electors of this County, held pursuant to a legal notice thereof at the Town of Richmond on the 13th. day of January 1837 for the purpose of choosing the place for the future seat of justice for said County & also for electing a clerk of the District Court — a clerk of the County Court, & a Sheriff for said County. The following gentlemen were appointed Judges of the election viz Randal Jones, Hiram Thompson & Daniel Perry. And the following gentlemen Clerks to wit, Robert Dickinson & Thomas R. Stiff. And after being duly sworn they proceeded to receive the votes which resulted as follows, to wit.

For the County Seat.	Richmond	83 votes
	Town of Fort Bend	67 "
	Fayetteville	20 "
For the District Clerk.	W. H. Pool	161 "
For County Clerk	Jos. H. Barnard	125 "
	M. M. Battles	43 "
For Sheriff	John V. Morton	95 "
	Jas. Hughes	45 "
	Jas. Perry	19 "
	Adam Stafford	8 "

Which we certify to be a correct return of said election.

Wyly Martin Chief Justice.

R. Jones
H. M. Thompson
Daniel Perry
} Judges.

Thos. R. Stiff.
Robt. Dickinson
} Clerks.

Liberty,
Jan. 25. 1837.

Wm. Hardin
relative to the
seizure & sale
of property
claimed by
Wm Smith.

To the Hon.
Sec'y. of State.
Sir,

Your communication of the 24th. Dec last — I received per Mrs. Ann Smith & from the tenor of
I am led to believe that the facts relative to the sale of

which the claims & complaints of, was not fully & fairly represented.

In the latter part of March or first of April a quantity of property of John M. Smith was seized & sold for the Costs of a criminal prosecution against said John M. and Wm. M. Smith. Since that time there has been a considerable amount seized & sequestered as the property of John M. & Ann Smith. (by their creditors). There has been none sold for Civil demands I have pursued what I understood to be the letter of the law, and hope I have not departed therefrom.

Mrs Smith claims the property which has been sold & I suppose will bring suit for the recovery of the same.

The Trial of the two prisoners Martin & James Dunman charged with aiding the two Mexican Officers in escaping has been continued on account of the absence of two material Witnesses — and the term of my service as judge having expired, I shall pass them over to the proper authority.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt

Wm. Hardin

New Orleans
Jan. 31. 1837

To the Hon.
Thos. J. Rusk
Secy. of State

T. Toby & Bro: relative to Land Scrip

Sir

A short time since a letter was presented to us from the Hon. D. G. Burnett under date 2nd Sept. last authorizing us to furnish Burt S. Cole with land Scrip to the amount of Four hundred & eighty dollars, say in their certificate 320 Acres land. At that time we had no Scrip under 640 acres consequently could not comply. Is it now the wish of the Govt. we furnish Mr Burt S. Cole with the amount required from the scrip now in our possession.

Your Obt Servts
T. Toby & Bro.

P.S. From news just received from Tampico the Mexican Army is broken up.

Harrisburg
Jan 30th. 1837

Hon Thos. J. Rusk
Secy. of State

A. Priscom relative to Tubonda

Sir

In pursuance of an Act of Congress of Hon. entitled an "Act, requiring the Chief Justices of the County Courts to inform the president of the limits of their respective counties" I

send you a statement of the boundaries of Hamsburg County as nearly as I can ascertain them in the absence of the laws creating them.

Beginning at the mouth of Clear Creek on Galveston Bay running with the meanderings of Clear Creek to its source: thence a right line to the south east corner of the league of land granted to F. Bingham; thence with the southern boundary line of said league of Land to the Brazos River; thence with the meanderings of said River to the north west corner of a league of Land granted to the Hon. Jesse H. Cartwright; then with the northern boundary line of said league to the north east corner of the same. thence a right line to the source of Spring Creek; thence due east to the middle of the dividing ridge between the waters of San Jacinto & Trinity Rivers; thence down said ridge to Galveston Bay; thence a right line across said Bay to the beginning point. To this is to be added the whole of Galveston Island, lying between Galveston Bay & the Gulf of Mexico.

Galveston Island having been attached to this County by a late Act of Congress throws our County into a very awkward shape, said Island being entirely unconnected with any part of the County. The County is so situated (nine tenths being prairie) that it requires a great extent of country to contain a small population.

If the boundary line was run from F. Binghams south east corner to the source of Chocolate Bayou & with the meanderings of that Bayou to its mouth, a right line could be drawn across the Bay to the west end of Galveston Island, & another from the east end of the Island to the point which may be supposed the dividing ridge between San Jacinto & Trinity Rivers. This would throw the County into a much more ship shape form, and would not interest more than five citizens of Brazoria County who could have no reason for preferring one County from the other. And whenever Galveston shall have a population requ[illegible] a separate administration of Justice, all that portion of this County east of Chocolate Bayou* & south of Clear Creek could be attached to it in order to have the area necessary to form a County without inconveniencing any of the inhabitants or weakening this County.

With the highest Respect
& esteem your Obt. Servt.

A. Briscoe
Chf. Justice
Ham. Co.

*This part is all Prairie.

New Orleans
Jan. 30. 18

Toby & Bro's
relative to the
Californian's
declaration

The Hon. Thos. J. Rusk
Actg Sec. of State

Sir

The resolution of Mr.

Indep- fixing the 20th inst. for the recognition of Independence, was postponed until
endence Monday last 25th. inst. when we are of opinion it will take place.
Santa Anna had arrived at Washington
& was well received.

And arrival from Tampico this morn-
ing confirms the news that the Californias had declared their Indepen-
dence. And it was generally talked of at Tampico that an American
Frigate & her Commander with the Whalers in the Pacific were at
the bottom of it. Our Consul at Tampico arrived here
in the Schooner & the Americans in Mexico were all preparing to leave.
We shall soon hear of the arrival of
Mr Ellis our minister at Washington which will throw some light
on the subject of our affairs with Mexico which at the present mo-
ment looks dark & gloomy, I am

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servt

J. Toby & Bro

To the Hon. Secy of State

Election
Returns of
Austin
County

Returns of the General Election
held in the County of Austin Feby. 6th. 1837.

Places where held.	John Yorke.	For Sheriff. M. Cleveland.
San Felepe.	21	4
Randal Jones.	9	14
Wm. Pettus.	21	24
C. Fulchen.	15	12
Jas. Stephenson	6	28
	72	82

For District Clerk.

	Isaac L. Hill.	John P. Borden.
San Felepe	23	1
Randal Jones.	24	"
Wm. Pettus	40	"
C. Fulchen.	27	"
Jas. Stephenson	24	"
	138.	1.

For County Clerk.

Places where held.	John B. Johnson.	J. B. Peir.	John P. Borden.
San. Felepe.	12	1	11
Randal Jones	18	2	4
Wm Pettus.	9	15	20
C. Fulchem.	20	"	9
James Stephenson.	"	28	7.
	59.	46	51

For Coroner

	A. Blair
San Felepe	17.
Randal Jones.	"
Wm Pettus	38
C. Fulchem	"
James Stephenson	"
	55.

For Justices of the Peace.

Mill Creek. Kleburg 37. Z. Kuykendall 36. J. Cothers 4.

" For Constable.

" Allen 24. Kuykendall 12.

For Justices of the Peace

C. Fulchems. Wm Hunter 40. Wm Walker 35. G. Huff. 10.

" For Constable

G. W. Davis 16. Jos. Kent 27.

For Justices of the Peace.

Randal Jones. M. P. Knowland 19. Martin Allen 3.

For Constable

James Stewart 22.

For Justices of the Peace

Caney. R. McNutt 31. W. Metford 12. Williams 21.

For Constable

Wm M. Perry 21. J. Atkinson — B. Granville

To the Hon.

Election J. P. Henderson

returns of Sec. of State

Jackson We the subscribers Judges of the E.

County held in the several Districts of the County of Jackson on

the sixth day of February last, being met together at the seat of Justice of the said County & having carefully examined the returns of the said several districts, and enumerated and added together the votes therein contained, do certify that at the said Election the following named persons were voted for & those being highest in votes appear to be duly elected viz.

For Sheriff.

John David 24. A. McClure. 16. Elijah Stepp 6.

For County Court Clerk.

John S. Menefee 44. S.C.A. Rodgers 1. Francis M. White 1.

For District Clerk.

S.C.A. Rodgers 20. Thos. Simmons 22. Felix B. Earnest 2.

For Justices of the Peace.

Francis F. Wells 22. Elijah Stepp 20. John Andrews Jr. 20.
Thos. Simmons 19. S.C.A. Rodgers 1. A. S. White 1.
James Kerr 1.

For Coroner

Geo. Sutherland 23. John Andrews Sen. 20. John Andrews Jr. 1.

For Constable

D. M. Stepp 37. Robt. Willby 4.

Judges.

Francis F. Wells
Thos. Menefee
Thos. Hill
A. S. White
Wm. Millican

I do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the original & that the above named Judges were chosen by the people of Jackson to hold an Election as above in testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this 28th. day March 1837.

Patrick Usher (Seal)
Chf. Justice
Co. of Jackson

Jackson County is entitled to Two Justices, One Sheriff, One Constable, One District Court Clerk, One County Court Clerk & one Coroner.

Election Returns of Sabine County

To the Hon.
Thos. J. Rusk

Having carefully examined the returns to me made by the Judges of the Election held in the several dis=tricts of the County of Sabine on the first Monday of February inst. enumer=ated & added together the votes therein contained, I do hereby certify that, at the said Election the following named persons being highest in votes appear to be duly elected, viz.

For Sheriff.
William Means. 70.

Clerks of the District Courts
Walter Hinckley 108.

Clerk of the County Court
Wm. H. Harris 128.

Justices of the Peace.
Sabine District
Jefferson Wilson. 39.
John S. Lane 27.

Pataroon District
John Payne 19.
Richd. R. Jowel 21.

Bear Creek District
Saml. D. McMahon 13.
Martin D. White 21.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & private seal (there being yet no county seal) this eighth day of February A. D. one thousand eight hundred & thirty seven & of the Republic of Texas the first.

M. Parker
Chf. Justice
Cy. Sabine

Election Returns of Gonzales

To the Hon.
Secy. of State

Supposed to be Febru 1837 there being no date the original Return

At an Election held on the 24th. inst. authorized by the Citizens of the County of Gonzales the following County-persons received the number of votes set opposite their names respectively.

For Sheriff
French Smith 32.
A. G. Neil 1.

Clerk of the District Court
Nathan Cordrey 30.

Clerk of the County Court
Henley G. Henderson 28.
J. Campbell 4.

Justices of the Peace
Johnson Day 26.
Pease 1.

Coroner
Daniel L. Poor. 31.

Constable
Thomas R. Nichols. 24.

We certify upon honor the foregoing is a correct & true account of the Election according to the votes given in.

Judges { Wm Mitchell
Geo. R. Nichols
Cloud.

John A. Wells Clk

Columbus,
Colorado C.T.
Feb. 9. 1837

To the Hon.
Sec'y of State.

Election Returns of Country.

Return of an Election held in the County of Colorado on the first Monday in February 1837 agreeably to an Act for the election of Sheriffs, Coroners &c & an Act establishing Courts.

Sheriff.
Stephen Townsend.

Clerk of District Court
Thomas Thatcher.

Clerk of County Court
Robert Brotherton

Coroner
James Nelson

District Civil Officers
Upper District
Justices of the Peace.
Samuel Alexander
James Stevens.

Constable
John Breeding

Middle District
Justices of the Peace
Williamson Daniels
William B. Dewees.

Constable
John Chaney

Lower District
Justices of the Peace
Gail Borden Senr.
Eli Mercer.

Constable
Thomas J. Reed.

I certify that the persons mentioned in the foregoing list were duly elected by a majority of votes of said County & the respective districts.

William Menefee.
Chief Justice
Colorado Cty

Election Returns of Brazoria County.

To the Hon.
J. P. Henderson
Secy of State,

Brazoria,
Febry 10th. 1857

Sir,
Enclosed you will receive the returns of the Election held in this County on the 1st inst.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
Geo. B. McKinstry
Chief Justice
Brazoria Cty

Senator
Wm. G. Hill

Sheriff
Robert T. Calden.

Coroner
J. L. Levey

Clerk of District Court.
Wm. P. Scott.

Clerk of County Court
William T. Austin

Justices of the Peace
1st Captains District
M. C. Patton
Robert H. Grimes.

Constable
Robert Tyler.

Justices of Peace.
2nd Captains District
Edmund Andrews
Wm. Eckell.

Constable
T. A. Hueser.

Justices of Peace
3rd Captains District
Isaac C. Hoskins
George H. Beamer

Constable
James Daughtery

Justices of Peace
4th. Captains District
Edwin Waller
William T. Russell

Constable
Elisha Mafey

Elections To the Hon.
Returns of Sec.y of State
Harrisburg County.

Harrisburg
Feby 8. 1837.

I have held an election throughout this County on Monday 6th. inst. for a Sheriff, Coroner, Clerk of District Court, Clerk of the County Court & for Two Justices of the Peace and one Constable for each Captains Beat. The Returns having been brought in from all the Precincts the following is the result.

Sheriff
John W. Moore

Coroner
Wm. Little

Clerk of District Court
Jas. S. Holman

Clerks of County Court
Dewitt Clinton Harris

Justices of Peace
1st District
C. C. Dryer
M. M. Battle

2nd District
Isaac Batterson
Joel Wheaton

3rd District
John Denton
James McGahy

4th. District
Abram Roberts (no other voted for)

Constables
1st District
James Thompson

2nd District
John W. Healen

3rd District
Peter J. Duncan

4th. District
Singleton House.

They are ready to enter upon the duties of their Offices & I will proceed to swear in the Justices of the Peace as soon as they present themselves.

Your Obt. Servt.
A. Briscoe
Chf. Justice
Harrisburg Cf.

Election Returns of Washington Co.

To the Hon.
Sec'y of State.

Washington
Feb. 15. 1837

I have the honor to hand you annex Returns of the Election for the several County Officers of this Cox County. & request you to forward commissions in conformity.

have the honor to be respectfully

Your Obt. Servt.
Jno. P. Coles
Chf. Justice
Robt. Merritt
Clk

I do hereby certify that on collating the returns from the several precincts composing the County of Washington for the election of County Officers for said County the following persons were found to be duly elected. To wit,

Sheriff
R. Stevenson

Clerks of District Court.
T. P. Sheppard.

Clerks of County Court.
Robert Merritt.

Coroner
W. P. Smith.

Justices of the Peace
Precinct of Hazard
G. Walker
I. Beauchamp.

Precinct of Washington
C. Roddy
S. R. Roberts.

Precinct of San Jacinto
Wm. Roberts
Wm. Robinson.

Justices of the Peace.
Precinct of Hidalgo.
I. G. Swisher
Shub. Marsh.

Precinct of Lake Creek.
Jer. Washam.
Geo. Galbraithe.

Precinct of Brisca
H. Mc. Goffin
I. L. Bennett.

Washington, Feby. 15. 1837.

Jno. P. Coles
Chf. Justice

Election Returns of San Augustine County

To the Hon. Secy. of State

Sir

Feby. 10. 1837.

At an election held in the County of San Augustine in the Republic of Texas pursuant to

law, the following gentlemen were duly elected. To wit

Sheriff
Wm. Kimbro.

Clerks of Districts Court
Calloway Deen.

Clerks of County Court
Stephen W. Blunt

Coroner
L. B. Brown.

Justices of the Peace.
Walton H. Payne.
Robert C. McDaniel
Wm. M. Sigler
Thos. Payne
Shadrach D. Thomas

Justices of the Peace.
John Bodine.
Wm. R. D. Waid
George Stovol
C. Blythe
John D. Nash.

I certify that the aforesaid list of names were duly elected pursuant to law at an election held on the 1st Monday of February 1837. in the County of San Augustine & Republic of Texas. Given under my hand & Seal the 10th. day of February 1837.

Wm. McFarland
Chf. Justice
San Augustine
County.

Will the Secy please to forward the Commissions for the aforesaid persons elect. We are strangers to what is done or what we ought to do as it relates to a direct communication with the Govt. Not even a News Paper reaches us. Would it not be consistent with the emergencies of the times that an "Express Mail" should be sent as far as San Augustine once a month.

The laws regulating inferior Courts is not in our Country what are we to do?

Accidently the proclamation of the President reached to day – it is respected.

Organizing the Militia

An election for Militia Officers will take place on the 25th. inst. organizing a Regiment from in the County of San Augustine. Also on the same day the vacancy in the Senate occasioned by Judge Cozine will be filled.

It is with pleasure that we shall at any time have it in our power to facilitate the wishes of the administration. I hope to be indulged by the Secretary make acceptable my respects to President Houston.

With considerations highly respectfull

Wm. McFarland

P.S. Pardon the apparent omission of the Secretary's name, as the name of that filled the vacancy of Austin has never reached this nor any other information unless it is accidental.

Respectfully
W. McF.

M. Farley's Certificate of Election of Milam County.

To the Hon.
I. Pinckney Henderson
Sec.y of State.

Feby 23. 1837

I Massillon Farley, Chief Justice of the County of Milam; certify that at the election held for County Officers in the County aforesaid on the first Monday of February inst. Thomas A. Graves was duly elected Sheriff. and William Walker and John Bailey Justices of the Peace, according to the returns on file in the Archives of the proper office.

Massilon Farley.

Election Returns of Nacogdoches County.

Nacogdoches,
March 13. 1837

In pursuance of an order of election from Charles S. Taylor, Chief Justice of the County for the election of Two Justices of the Peace & one Constable for the district including all qualified Voters residing West of the La Nana Creek & east of the Loco. The Votes of the following individuals were received.

Signed

H. F. Douglas.
Wm. Hamilton
Judges

Danl. Lacy Clk

Justice of the Peace

Wm. Hart	42.
W. B. Reed	41.
Jesse Watkins	45.
B. F. Whitaker	18.
Dan. Wilburn	25.
John Hyde	8.
T. W. Walden	24.

Constable

James Cleveland	36.
Elias C. Hamilton	40.
D. A. Hoffman	37.

We do hereby certify the above to be a true statement of the Votes given for the Candidates abovenamed for the Officers of Justice of the Peace & Constable.

H. F. Douglas
Wm. Hamilton } Judges.

Danl. Lacy Clk

Election Returns of Jasper County.

Jasper County
March 12. 1837

To the Hon.
Sec^y of State.

Dear Sir,

On the return of our Senator & Representative from Columbia we were given to understand that Laws at passed organizing District & County Courts, & making it the duty of the County Judges to hold Elections for County Officers, that the Acts of Congress would come to hand immediately, giving all the necessary instructions as to the time & manner of holding said elections. We received neither law or instructions until the first of February when we then ascertained that the Counties above were to hold their elections on the first Monday following, we still without any further information as to the time or manner, collected together in Committee & recommended holding an election for the purpose of ascertaining the wish of the people of the County. Accordingly on the 18th. February an election was held in form, which resulted in the choice of the following persons for office. To wit

Coroner	Constables	Sheriff.
Wm. Jordon.	Calvin Robinett.	John Stubblefield
	Wm. McClelland.	
District Clerk	Adam L. Stewart.	County Clerk
Robert A. Pennel		William S. Keaghey

Justices of the Peace.

Martin B. Lewis
Friend Mc. Mahon
Henry W. Sudderth.
William Williams
Josiah Wheat
Thos. B. Hewling.

And from a circular received same time we had reason to believe the Militia might be called for, we therefore concluded to officer the different Military districts which his Excellency will approve or disapprove as his wisdom may direct. In that election the following Officers were elected.

Election of Militia Officers

Captain 1st. Company	Captain 2nd. Company	Captain 3rd. Company
Philip A. Smith.	John Ingram.	Adam L. Stewart.
First Lieut.		First Lieut.
Barney C. Lowe.		Finess Guthrie
Second Lieut.		Second Lieut.
Henry G. Morgan.		James Mc. Mahon.

I hope Sir, his Excellency will receive this communication rather as a recommendation to fill vacancies than otherwise, but should the course pursued be approved of, I hope it will be the pleasure of the President, to forward Commissions by the bearer for the several persons so recommended.

That no misunderstanding may happen I beg leave to remark that altho' I have a Commission in hand as Chief Justice, not having received the Law pointing out the duties of that Office, I have thought it most consistent to act as County Judge, until such law comes to hand.

With due respect I remain
Sir Your Obt. Servt.
Jos. Motts
C.J. Judge

To the Hon.
T. Pinkney Henderson
Sec.y of State

Matagorda
March 30. 1837

S. Dinsmore relative to the boundaries of Matagorda County

Sir

The boundaries of the county of Matagorda commence at the entrance of the outlet of Cedar Lake into the Gulf of Mexico, & from thence up the said outlet and through the Cedar Lake to the upper line of Harrison's League thence westward to Lemville's Bayou: thence up the same to the lower line of the twelfth League west of the San Bernard River. thence along the said line to said River; thence up the middle branch of thereof to the intersection of a line extending from the head of Big Creek to the Colorado River at the upper line of the Kouncheloc League; thence along the said line to said River; thence westward to the head of the Trespalacious & from thence to the dividing ridge between that Creek and the Coranchua; thence down the said ridge to the Bay of Matagorda; thence through the main channel to the Gulf of Mexico; thence along the shore of said Gulf to the place of beginning.

I have sketched these boundaries to you in consequence of having heard a rumor that the Congress passed a law making it my duty to do so — not from having seen any such law, for I can assure you that I am indebted to rumor & accident for all the knowledge which I possess of the Laws lately enacted & I shall feel exceedingly gratified if you can furnish me with a Copy of them to relieve me from the mortification & embarrassments into which I am continually led by such ignorance.

Your Very Respectfull Obt. Servt.
Silas Dinsmore
Chf. Matagorda C.J.

County boundary of Shelby.

To the Hon.
Sec. of State

R. Hooper, relative to the boundaries of Shelby County.

Beginning at a point on the Sabine River one mile below Domingo's Ferry & running up the Sabine River to the 32nd degree of North Latitude, thence due north to Red River; thence up said River to the mouth of the Sulphur Forks, thence up that River to Travels Trace, thence on that Trace to the Attoyac River thence down the same to the County line of San Augustine thence east to the head waters of Patton Bayou & with the County line of San Augustine to the County line of Sabine thence on that line to the Sabine River to the beginning point one Mile below Domingo's Ferry.

Rich. Hooper

To the Hon.
I. P. Henderson
Sec. of State.

Jno. P. Cole, relative to the boundaries of Washington County.

Sir,

In compliance with a resolution of Congress passed at their late session I have the honor to report to you such information as is in my possession respecting the boundary lines of the County of Washington. I know not whether the act of the Legislature of Coahuila & Texas organizing this County was ever published, but this Court has exercised undisputed jurisdiction over the territory included within the following boundaries. viz.

Beginning at the mouth of Caney Creek on the west bank of the Brazos River thence following said Creek to its source; thence west on the dividing ridge between the waters of New Years Creek & the principal or western forks of Mill Creeks until it strikes the eastern line of the County of Mina and thence north on said eastern line of the County of Mina to the San Antonio Road, from thence following said Road eastward crossing the Brazos River to the west bank of Trinity River, from thence following down said west bank to the County of Liberty (which is undefined) from thence following said northern line of Liberty to the north east corner of the County of Harrisburg, from thence following the north line of the County of Harrisburg to the north east corner of the County of Austin, so as to include Lake Creeks Settlement. from said north east corner of the County of Austin following the north line of Austin to the mouth of Pom Creek on the east bank of the Brazos River, & thence up said east bank to a point opposite the mouth of Caney Creek & thence acro the Brazos River to the place of beginning.

A Petition was b

session of Congress & will be probably renewed at the next for a division of this County, from an examination of the foregoing limits upon the Map it will be seen to include a large Territory; but our population is small & ill able at present to bear the Taxes necessary for the erection of proper public buildings & the payment of other County expenses, under these circumstances it would I think be bad policy to divide the County until our population becomes more dense. I would therefore recommend the passage of an Act of Congress defining the boundaries of the County as set forth above or with such alteration as may be thought necessary.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your obt Serv.t
Jno. P. Coles.
Chf. Justice

Election Returns of Mustang

To the Hon. Sec.y of State

Mustang Precinct
April 1. 1837

Return of an election held in Mustang Precinct, Precinct at the House of Colin Aldrich pursuant to an order from Nacogdoches County the Hon. Chas. S. Taylor of date April 1 1837 for Two Justices of the Peace & One Constable. Here follows the names of the voters for which see the original.

Justice of the Peace	Justice of the Peace
Isaac Parker 22.	Elijah Gassett 22.

Constable
Nelson Box. 23.

We as Judges of this election & we as Clerks of the same certify that Isaac Parker for Justice of the Peace received Twenty two votes & that Elijah Gassett for Justice of the Peace received Twenty two votes & that Nelson Box for Constable received Twenty three votes. April 1. 1837.

{Spedell Reeding
{J. Clapp.
Judges.
{Robt. M. Tynes.
{Martin A. Walker
Clks.

see page 24. 29. 88. 90.

Nacogdoches County

Election Returns of Mastersville Precinct,

To the Hon. Sec.y of State

Mastersville
April 5. 1837
Nacogdoches Cty

Returns of an election held at Mastersville by order of the authorities of the Republic for Two Justices & one Constable in Masters' precinct including all

Nacogdoches County

qualified Voters west of the Neches & east of Townsend that are included in Capt. James Maddons Company of Militia.

(The following the names of the voters in article see the original)

The following gentlemen were Candidates for Justices of the Peace in Capt. James Maddons Company of Militia & Mastersville Electoral precinct. April 5. 1837.

Justice of the Peace		Justice of the Peace	
Martin Mechanson	7.	W. S. McDonald	19.
John Grigsby	22.	R. R. Russell	1.

The following are the names of the Candidates for Constable in Mastersville electoral precinct & Captain Maddons Company Militia. April 5. 1837.

Constable

Joseph Teague 14.
George W. Wilson 10.

We the undersigned Judges & Clerks for an election held in Mastersville precinct including the qualified voters in Captain James Maddons Company of Militia in the County of Nacogdoches & Republic of Texas, do certify that the above is a true Statement of the Poles of the aforesaid election given under our hands, April 5. 1837.

James Wilson
H. P. England
Clks.

James Madden
Darius H. Eden.
Judges

I do certify that the above is a true Copy

Jacob Masters
Inspector

See pages 27. 28. 88. 90.

To the Hon.
Sec.y of State

M. Farley Certificate of Election.

I Massilon Farley Chief Justice of the County of Milam, certify that on the 10th. day of April last Joel Moore & Robert Henry were duly elected Justices of the Peace of said County in addition to those heretofore chosen.

Massillon Farley

Election Returns of Jefferson County.

To the Hon. Sec.y of State

Jefferson County
April 15.

I do hereby certify the

held in this County on Monday the sixth February last, for Civil Officers for the said County at which the following persons were elected viz.

Justices of the Peace	Constables
Geo. A. Patillo	Thos. Rowe
Reason Green	Elisha Allen.

Sheriff
William Stevenson

Coroner	Clerk of the County Court and Recorder
Bradley Garner Senr.	Thos. H. Brenan.

I beg leave to remark that the laws of the Republic have never been received here, & that it is probable the above returns may be informal, & also that this is the first opportunity since the election of making any return as the Mail has failed coming here until now.

Respectfully

Chichester Chaplin
Chf. Justice
Jefferson Cty

Mr. Farley relative to boundaries of Milam County

To the Hon.
Secy of State
Sir

Milam County
April 16. 1837

Pursuant to a Resolution of Congress entitled "Joint Resolution" requiring the Chief Justices of the County Courts to give information to the Secretary of State concerning the boundaries of their respective Counties.

I Massillon Farley, Chief Justice of the County of Milam is bounded as follows, to wit,

Beginning at the Rio Navisoto at the upper crossing on the road that leads from San Antonio de Bexar to Nacogdoches; thence following the said road westwardly until it reaches the extreme heights that divide the waters of the Brazos & Colorado; thence following the said heights northerly to a clump of live oak Trees in the cross Timbers; thence eastwardly with the said cross Timbers to the extreme heights that divide the waters of the Brazos & Trinity; thence on a south course to the Rio Navisoto; thence with the said Navisoto to the point of beginning.

No estimate of the lengths of the several boundary lines or of the area of said County has ever been made.

The County is some two or three

hundred miles in length from North to South. The white settlements are wholly in the southern part of the County, it would therefore be conducive to the convenience of the Citizens that the seat of Justice should be established temporarily or otherwise at some point near the centre of population, say at the Town of Nashville.

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Serv.t
Massillon Farley

To the Hon.
J. Pinckney Henderson
Sec.y of State

Jasper,
April 21. 1837

J. Mott
relative to
boundaries
of Jasper
County.

Sir

In compliance with an Act passed at the late Session of Congress, I proceed to point out the boundary of the County of Jasper, the starting point seems to be Grants Bluff on the Neeches River being the Southwest corner of said County & running east to the Sabine River, thence up said River to the mouth of Little Cow creek, thence up said Creek to the head, thence a direct line to the junction of the Arpish Bayou & Bear Creek, thence down said Bayou to the Angeline, thence a west direction to Johnsons Salene on the Neeches River thence down said River to the beginning, making the County an average width of about twenty five miles & fifty in length, with its natural boundary on the east which cannot be altered, except by including the forks of Cow Creek & the Sabine which formerly belonged to Jasper, but was taken off by the general council in making Sabine County leaving Cow Creek to run an east course, which has created considerable inconvenience to the few inhabitants of that part separating them from all other inhabitants of the County of Sabine the west boundary being a River of considerable size & at times unpassable. I think I am justified in saying the County of Jasper wishes no alteration made in its limits unless the County of Jefferson should wish to take a part of the lower or South end across from River to River which would be no inconvenience to Jasper, & any attempt to alter or lay off a new County in the Fork of the Rivers may be considered the management of the few for injury of many

With due Respect
I subscribe myself your
humble Servant

Joseph Mott
Chf. Jus.
Jasper

San Augustine
April 22. 1837

Hon. I. P. Henderson
Sec'y of State

Election Returns of San Augustine County.

Respected Sir

Pursuant to the proclamation of his Excellency President Houston an Election was held to fill the vacancy of the Hon. Cowan resigned.

The result of which was that H. W. Augustin was duly elected.

With sentiments of highest Respect

Wm. McFarland
Chf. Justice

San Augustine
April 22. 1837

Hon. I. P. Henderson
Sec'y of State

Wm. McFarland relative to the boundaries of San Augustine County.

Sir

The regular boundaries of the County of San Augustine are the following viz.

Beginning at the widow Thompsons on the Polygotch & running in a direct line to the mouth (of the) of the North Fork of the Patroon Bayou, thence up said Fork of said Bayou to its principal source, thence due west to the Attoyac River; thence down the west bank of that stream to its junction with the Angelina; thence on a direct line to Whites on the leading road from San Augustine to Jasper thence from said Whites on a direct line to the beginning at Mrs Thompsons on the Polygotch.

The aforesaid report made in conformity to the law of the 17th. December 1836 requiring the Chf. Justice of the County Court to give information to the Sec'y of State the boundaries of their respective Counties by the first of May next, I have the honor with considerations of the highest respect to be

Yours &c
Wm. McFarland
Chf. Justice

P.S.

There is no doubt but that the aforesaid boundaries will interfere less with the interests of adjoining Counties than any other. Some trouble has been taken to ascertain & no objection found.

W. McF.

Geo. B. McKinstry
relative to the boundaries of Brazoria County

To the Hon. J. P. Henderson
Sec'y of State, &c.

Brazoria April 24. 1837

In obedience to a joint resolution passed by the two houses of Congress at the last session, "requiring the Chief Justices of the County Courts to give information to the Sec'y of State" concerning the boundaries of their respective Counties, I have the honor to report to you that having taken the matter into consideration & paid it that attention which it deserves am nevertheless compelled to make my report in a very imperfect manner owing to the loss of all our records in relation thereto in April last. The County of Brazoria is bounded as follows.

Begeining on the west at the mouth of Caney Creek & running up said Creek as it meanders to the head; thence in a straight line to the upper line of the League of Land granted to George Huff on the River Bernard; thence in a straight line to the head of Big Creek & down said Creek to where it empties into the Brazos River thence up the Brazos to the upper line of the League of Land granted to Francis Bingham & thence along the line of said League of Land a due course to the head of Clear Creek & down said Creek as it meanders to its mouth & thence down Galveston Bay to the Gulf (exclusive of Galveston Island) & thence along the coast to the mouth of Caney Creek as before mentioned.

Very Respectfully your obt. Servt.
Geo. B. McKinstry
Chief Justice
C.J. of Brazoria

J. Rabb
relative to the boundaries of Milam County

County of Milam, April 24th. 1837. To the Hon. Sec'y of State, Dear Sir, In conformity to a resolution of Congress respecting boundary lines of the several counties in this Republic I in compliance with that requisition forward to you the several boundary lines of this County, To wit, It is bounded on the south by the La Bahia road; on the west by the County of Gonzales; on the north by the mountains; and on the east by the Counties of Milam & Washington. It is at least seventy miles long from the La Bahia road to the mountains up the Colorado River and about forty miles wide from east to west. The Colorado River runs through the County near the Centre from north to south. The present population of this County reside on & near the River on both sides from the mountains down to the La Bahia road, although the country on either side pretty nearly to the extent of the boundary lines will admit of being inhabited by strong settlements. Our present County Seat Milam or Bastrop as it is often called, is situated on the east bank of the Colorado River & near the Centre of the County; possessing all the combined advantages of a high & healthy site, surrounded by large bodies of rich lands finely watered; besides an abundance of Timber of various kinds, suitable for buildings. And I have no hesitation in saying that in the course of a few years peace, the Town of Milam will advance in wealth & population as rapid as any

other inland Town in the Republic; after taking into consideration the above enumerated advantages there is an extensive rich & fertile country up said River, even beyond the mountains, so that as soon as the navigation of our River is effected I have no doubt but that, Mina will vie with any other Village in the Country situated so remote as it is from the Bay or tide water in point of wealth comfort business & health. With due consideration, I am yours with profound respect

Andrew Robb, Chf. Justice
County of Mina

P. Nabr. relative to the boundaries of Jackson County

Texana, County of Jackson, April 24. 1837

To the Hon. Secy of State, Sir, In compliance with a joint Resolution of Congress I herewith transmit to you the required description or information in reference to the boundaries of Jackson County by an ordinance of the Provisional Government passed at San Felipe de Austin Dec. 2. 1835. The boundaries of said County are thus defined that a Municipality shall be & is hereby created off & from the west side of the present municipality of Matagorda, the same shall be however as the municipality of Jackson, & the Capital shall be at the Town of Texana, lately known as Santa Anna. The municipality of Jackson is to be comprehended in the following boundary to wit. Beginning at a point on Matagorda Bay equi-distant from the Trespalacios & Baranchina Bayous & from thence running by a dividing line to the head waters of the Trespalacios Bayou & from thence a due north course to the northern boundary line of the municipality of Matagorda thence along said boundary line a due west course to the La Baca River, thence down the centre of said River to the anchorage ground of the La Baca Bay, in the Matagorda Bay thence to the eastward along the northern shore of Matagorda Bay to place of beginning. The said municipality of Jackson shall be entitled to all the functionaries which the other municipalities are or may be entitled to, & they shall be created in the same manner as in others.

In relation to other information required by the aforesaid joint Resolution I can say but little; However it appears to me highly necessary for the boundary of Jackson County to be more clearly defined, also I would suggest the propriety of enlarging the boundary of said County, the particulars in reference to which (the honorable Samuel A. White a representative in Congress) will inform you.

Locality & description

The Town of Texana the present seat of Justice of the County of Jackson is situated on the River Navidad navigable for lighters drawing three feet of water, from this point of Texana nearly all the Cotton & other produce raised in the present limits of this County will be exported; the Bar at the mouth of the River La Baca is an obstruction which if removed would greatly

facilitate the commercial interests of the Town & County.

The location of a Custom House & the appointment of a collector for the district of the Port of La Baca would conduce much to commercial & planting interest of the County of Jackson, heretofore or under the provisional Government the port of Labaca was the port of entry for the Labaca revenue district & unless it is so continued the planting & commercial interest of our Country will be much incommoded.

suggests altering boundaries

I deem it proper to inform you of the views of the inhabitants in reference to the boundary of their County, enlarging if I am not mistaken the larger number are desirous of enlarging the County the limits or extending the western boundary to the Aronoso Creek ten miles west of the Labaca & the upper or northwestern boundary to include Kents Settlement on the Labaca, the inhabitants of which settlement I understand are desirous of having their settlement within the limits of Jackson & propose petitioning Congress in relation thereto. I would also respectfully recommend that the boundary line crossing the Labaca Bay in the Matagorda Bay be more clearly defined. We who are acquainted with the LaBaca & Matorgorda Bay are somewhat at a loss to understand the following which reads thus "thence down the centre of said River (meaning the Labaca River) to the anchorage ground of the LaBaca Bay in the Matagorda Bay thence to the eastward along the northern shore of Matagorda Bay to the place of beginning," To obviate the ambiguity of said reading I would suggest the propriety of altering or wording the reading thus — thence down the said River (meaning the La Baca) to the anchorage ground of Matagorda Bay at the pass or entance of said Bay thence in a direct line to place of beginning. To conclude I beg leave to subscribe myself with sentiments of respect, Your most obt. Sat.

P. Usher

P.S. You will please observe that I wish to be understood in reference to the foregoing observations in the following light viz, in case the western boundary line be extended to the Aronoso Creek then & in that case the line down said Creek thence on a direct line including all the La Baca Bay to the pass or entance to the Matagorda Bay thence running on a direct line to the place of beginning.

P. Usher

Chas. S. Taylor.

Nacogdoches April 25. 1837. To the Hon.

Relative to the boundaries of County

J. P. Henderson Sec.y of State, &c.

Sir In conformity with a joint resolution of the Senate & House of Representatives requiring Chief Justices of the County Courts to give information concerning the boundaries of their respective Counties. I transmit the following as being the only information short of an actual Survey that can be arrived at in relation to the County of Nacogdoches. —

The boundary on the east is the

Attoyac; on the west the line of Stephen F. Austins old Grant; on the north Red River; and on the south the northern line of the County of Jasper; all which is given from recollection, or rather, what has long been considered the actual established boundaries; a part of Jasper County having been taken from the southern boundary by the "Consultation or Provisional Government". If there is any document in the Archives tending to describe the lines more particularly it cannot now be found; should however after diligent search any further information be obtained I will loose no time in forwarding it to you. I am Sir your obt. Servt.

Chas. S. Taylor, Chf. Justice
Nacogdoches Co.

D. P. Coit — Relative to the boundaries of Liberty County.

Liberty April 25. 1837. To Hon. J. P. Henderson, Sec. of State, Sir, In compliance with a resolution of Congress I hereewith transmit the boundaries of the County of Liberty as at present defined. Commencing at the west side of the Sabine River Bay, or pass, thence westerly along the coast to Point Bolivar; thence up Galveston Bay to the mouth of Cedar Bayou thence up said Bayou to its head, thence a due north course to the line dividing said County from the County of Nacogdoches; thence a due East course to the River Neches; thence down said River & the western bank of the Sabine Bay to the place of beginning.

The northern boundary of the County is very indefinitely defined &c. It is very desirable for the convenience of the citizens that the County should extend as far north as the Indian Village known as "Battiste" or forty miles north of Menards Creek. Very Respectfully your obt. Servt.

Dan. P. Coit
Chf. Justice

C. Chaplin — Relative to the boundaries of Jefferson County.

Jefferson County, April 25. 1837. Hon. J. P. Henderson, Sec. of State, Sir, The Laws of the Republic in pamphlet form have not as yet reached this County & it was only through the medium of a newspaper the Telegraph of the 27. Dec. last which I accidently saw a few days ago that I discovered that it was made a part of my duty to define the boundaries of this County & give such other information as may be conducive to the convenience of the Citizens. The County of Jefferson previously to the Revolution formed a part of the municipality of Liberty, & was by a degree of the Consultation separated therefrom. I have no Copy of the degree to refer to, but from recollection. I believe that the boundaries of the County are as follows.

Commencing at the point where the Sabine River flows into the Lake Sabine & from thence with the River to fifteen miles above Ballow's Ferry, from thence to

Grants Bluff on the River Neches & from thence to the mouth of said River & from thence along the shore of Sabine lake to the place of commencement.

The fact of the laws not having yet been received has hitherto been of the utmost inconvenience to the Citizens of this County. The County Court is not yet organized, nor do any of the Officers elect know either the extent or limits of their duties. It was not until a late period that the proclamation for the immediate organization of the Militia made its appearance here, & then it was by mere accident.

Election of Militia Officers.

An election of Militia Officers was immediately held, & as soon after as possible I made the returns to the Department of War.

It is to be hoped that the Post Master General will be called to this subject & that the Mail contractor between Liberty & Galveston, will be made to answer for the frequent failure of the Mail to this County. I have the honor of remaining Respectfully

Colchester Chaplin
Chf. Justice

Jasper, May 1st 1837. Hon. J. Pickering

J. Mott Henderson, Sir, I herewith enclose you the result of an election for Justices of the Peace in the County of Jasper.

Election Returns

William Williams	Martin B. Lewis
William Pamplin	Thos. B. Huling.

whom I certify to have been duly elected agreeably to law. One District having failed to hold an election.

Very Respectfully your obt Servant
Jos. Mott, Chf. Justice

Jos. Baker

Bexar May 1. 1837. To the Hon. Secy Relative to this of State, Sir, In conformity with the provision of a "Joint Resolution" boundaries of both houses of Congress "requiring the Chief Justices of the County Courts of Texas to give information to the Secy of State concerning the boundaries of County & their respective boundaries", I have the honor to inform you that the present County of Bexar, for the purposes of Civil & Criminal jurisdiction is necessarily very large, on account of its contiguity to a vast portion of Territory claimed by the Republic, which has not yet been reduced into actual possession, & over which the jurisdiction of this & other adjacent Counties would seem to extend until some subdivision shall be made by the future Legislation of Congress. The said County has not yet been distinctly surveyed, but is comprised as nearly as can be ascertained within the following limits. viz.

Commencing on the San Antonio River about six miles below the mouth of the Cibolo, at a point where an old road leading from Laredo to Nacogdoches crosses the

thence south west to the Rio Grande; thence following the national boundary up said River to the meridian of the North west corner of Milanes Colony; thence due south to the said North west corner of said Colony; thence following the western boundary of said Colony to the old San Antonio Road; thence west following said Road to the North west of De Witts Colony; thence following the western boundary of said Colony to its South west corner; and thence in a straight line to the place of beginning; comprising an extent of Territory sufficiently large for the formation of two or more Counties, but which for want of population would not at present admit of a subdivision.

The population is not known but is estimated at about two thousand souls, mostly Mexicans by birth. Nearly three fourths of the present population of the County resides in the Town & in the immediate vicinity, there being no other settlement of any note except at or near Laredo on the Rio Grande, Dolores being at present entirely depopulated. The inhabitants, so far as my observations has extended appear at present much disposed to support the Constitution & obey the Laws, & manifest a general desire to promote the national welfare by maintaining the social relations towards their fellow Citizens throughout the Republic. Their principal pursuits are Agriculture & grazing, to which the soil & climate are eminently favorable; and in those pursuits many of them have acquired wealth & character sufficiently certain for all the purposes of legal & political responsibility.

Public notice having been previously given, this County has to day been duly organized so far as relates to the election & qualification of Justices of the Peace & Constables.

Election of Civil Officers

For the purpose of election the County is divided into two Militia Captains Districts; the dividing line between which is the Rio San Antonio. The first District comprises all that part of the County west of said River; and the second District all that part thereof east of the same. This division is thought to be sufficient at present, but it will probably become necessary hereafter to form a third District for the accommodation of the inhabitants of the lower part of the County.

The Justices & Constables elected & qualified for the 1st District are

José Antonio Navarro.
Nicholas Flores. } Justices of the Peace.
and
Francisco Granado } Constable.

and those for the 2nd District are.

Ignacio Chaves
José Luis Carbajal } Justices of the Peace.
and
Bernardino Ruiz. } Constable.

All of whom are competent to discharge the duties of their offices and

commissions are accordingly requested.

At a meeting of the Justices after having taken the oath of Office José Antonio Navarro & Ignacio Chaves were then & there duly chosen Associate Justices of the County Court of this County, for whom commissions are also respectfully requested.

And I do further report that at the time & place of the election aforesaid for the Justices & Constables abovenamed there were also duly elected pursuant to public notice previously given John W. Smith to be clerk of the County Court, Jos. L. Hood to be Sheriff and Pedro Flores to be Coroner for said County, and Manuel Pres to be Clerk of District Court for said County; But the last mentioned officers not having been elected on the day & at the time required by law for their election & there being no alternative of time for their election, they cannot lawfully proceed to discharge their several functions without the previous passage of a law confirming their elections as aforesaid, & this I would beg leave to request may be speedily done by Congress in order that system may be maintained & the Law administered throughout the country. All of which I respectfully submit & have the honor to be with high consideration your obt. Servt.

Jos. Baker

Geo. Lusk.
Election Return =

Shelby County, May 4. 1837. To, Hon. Sec. of State, Sir, I do hereby certify that Lewis Watkins was duly elected Sheriff of the County aforesaid, John Inman District Clerk, Samuel Todd County Clerk, and Richard Haley, Thomas Kelly, George Butler, William Watson, James Candler, and Jas. West Justices of the Peace, all for the County aforesaid.

Given under my hand this the 4th. day of May 1837.

Geo. Lusk. Chf. Justice

Read.

House of Representatives, May 17. 1837

Resolved, That the Secy. of State be instructed to furnish this House with a copy of the Report made by our Commissioners, Messrs Austin Archer, & Wharton, together with the documents that accompanied said Report, and also all other letters & documents in his possession that relate to the Loans negotiated by the Commissioners.

Extract from the minutes.

W. F. Gray, Clk. H. of R.

Translation by M. Amory, C. Clk. Dept. State. May 13. 1839.

F. Ruiz Resignation & Smith's

"Bexar May 22nd 1837." "To the Hon. Judge Beca, Sir, Having been elected in September by a majority of this County, ad Senator to the General Congress of Texas, I served at the first session but since then I have suffered much through sickness, from which I am not yet entirely recovered, I am under the necessity of formally resigning & I hereby make known to you for your information & guidance. Fran.co Ruiz

Schenectada, May 29. 1837. To the Hon.
A. Velas Sec^y of State, Dear Sir, I this morning received through the medium
latura of a friend in New York, a number of the New York Express containing
is long the message of President Houston on the opening of the present session
bunder of Congress, and there learned to my astonishment, that new Commissioners
Grant had been appointed under the Five Million loan law, as I suppose in
nom^e place of Menard and myself. I cannot understand the meaning of
the expressions he uses there when he says that in consequence of my
continued representations of the impossibility of negotiating a loan at the
present time, I have been permitted to return. I never sought the
appointment of that commission. I left my own important private
business to discharge its duties, I have conscientiously fulfilled my
duty to the Country, and have made every effort that could be made
to raise money, but at a period when the state of New York has been
unable to obtain money on her bonds, I think any man who could re-
present that he could obtain it on the faith of Texas, must be possessed
of an extraordinary sanguine temperament. I have no desire to
retain the situation of Loan Commissioner, or any other situation under
the Government for I went out with the firm determination to accept no
office in the Country. The persuasion of my friends on my arrival
there determined me to act contrary to my better judgment, and in an
unfortunate moment I gave way to their arguments. I feel now much
at a loss what course to pursue in relation to this matter, but as I
cannot consider a newspaper copy of the Presidents message, an official
notice, I must continue to consider myself still as under commission
until I receive notice of my removal.

I have made out a Copy of our agre-
ment relative to the Western Expedition and a power of Attorney for Col.
McIntosh which I gave to Mr James Treat some time since to take
to you, but he has not yet left for Texas, and I have written him to
day to forward the package by sea to New Orleans. I had a letter
from Huey a few days since dated at Little Rock April 28th. stating
that he & Coffee were to start the next day for Fort Smith & Coffees
post &c. I hope McIntosh will meet them & make all matters come
out right. Sam. Houston recommends a revision & modification
of the Land law, I hope it will not be so altered as to effect our ope-
rations.

The pressure of the times has been so
great, that it was next to impossible to raise the funds to pay the lands
we purchased, which consisted of 20 half Colonial head rights for $6000.
payable at 90 days & 6 mos. and I have been attempting to raise the
money by forming a seventh interest as a consideration for the ad-
vancement of the money. If this arrangement meets your approbation
please signify it in your letter to me, & if McIntosh is with you, I
should be glad also to have his assent to the arrangement, which I
have some prospect of completing.

I shall feel much indebted to you
for information relative to matters in general as well as our own private
affairs as often as is consistent with your discharge of other, more im-

portant duties. I shall not return to Texas, until Fall & then intend bringing out my family. I remain with sentiments of — esteem & consideration, truly yours. H. J. Yates

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N. Townsend asking for certain legal information

Texian Consulate, New Orleans, June 3rd 1837. Hon. J. P. Henderson Sec.y of State, Sir, I have frequent applications for information as regards the details of laws in force in Texas, and especially in relation to the Revenue and Land laws, and as they could not be procured when I left Texas, I hope you will have the goodness to cause them to be forwarded as soon as practicable.

Will it be necessary for Shippers of Merchandise to Texas to procure my certificate to their Invoices?

Any other and further instructions that may be deemed expedient will be duly attended to. With profound respect, I am your Obt. Serv.t Nath.l Townsend

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A. Robb relative to the Election Returns

Mina, June 17. 1837. Hon. J. Pinckney Henderson, Sec.y of State, Sir, Yours of the 3rd. May enclosing certificates of illegality of the election of Civil Officers for the County of Mina has been received. Those Election certificates came into your hands certainly without any management of mine.

I was well aware, at the time of holding the election, that it was without the sanction of Law. But the organization of this County was commenced in consequence of the advice of the Judge of the 3rd Judicial District & our Senator in Congress, in the full confidence that it would be legalized by a special act of Congress, and on this account separate certificates were given to the individuals elected, to forward them to the Department of State, or retain them till the election should be made valid, as they might think proper. When they arrived at Columbia the Gov.t had removed to Houston & the person by whom they were sent took the liberty of enclosing them to you in a letter under my signature. I am sorry to have troubled you so far on such a subject, but I did not wish to have all the blame of such a blunder fastened on myself. Very respectfully your Obt. Serv.t Andrew Robb. Chf. Jus.

A. Robb Returns of Civil & Militia Offices

County of Mina, Hon. J. P. Henderson, Sec.y of State, Sir, Agreeably to the returns forwarded to me of an election for Civil and Militia Officers, held on the 8th. day of April 1837. the following persons were elected to the several offices as follows, To wit,

Election of Mina Co.

Sheriff.	Clerk of District Court	Clerk of County Court
Rich.d Vaughan.	Greenleaf Fisk.	Jos.h Gorham.

Coroner
Andrew Mayes.

First Militia District	Second Militia District	Third Militia District
Justice of Peace.	Justice of Peace.	Justice of Peace
Geo. W. Spears	James Smith	David F. Owen
James Robinson.	Samuel Craft.	Seaborn I. Whatley
Constable	Constable	Constable
Norman Woods.	Samuel H. Reed	Wm. Johnson
Captain	Captain	Captain
Michael R. Goheen.	John G. McGehee.	James Rodgers
First Lieut.	First Lieut.	First Lieut.
John W. Scallorn	Martin Walker.	Washington Anderson.
Second Lieut.	Second Lieut.	Second Lieut.
Henry G. Woods.	John Hernin.	John D. Anderson.

A. Robb. Chf. Justice

C. West, relative to Commissions for Officers

Jefferson, June 17. 1837. Hon. Secy of State, Sir, you will please to forward on the Commissions for the Civil Officers of this County pr. Mail. I forgot to call at your office for them before I left Houston. I believe they all have their Commissions except some two or three of the Justices of Peace. With sentiments of high esteem I remain your obt. Servt.

Claiborne West

C. L. Durocher, Prisoner at Metamoras to

Metamoras, June 21. 1837. Hon. S. P. Henderson Secy of State, Dear Sir, This letter will be handed you by Mr Carol, a Merchant of Metamoras, whose intention is to settle in Texas. I highly recommend you Mr Carol; to mention what he has done for all the prisoners would be impossible, I therefore beg of you to have the greatest attention for him. He will give you further details as regards our situation. We are all well. I remain very respectfully Dear Sir your obt. Servt. Chas. L. Durocher

ex. Capt. T. Army
Prisoner at Metamoras

J. C. Hoskins, wishing to

Velasco, June 25. 1837. Hon. S. P. Henderson, Secy of State. Dear Sir, I address you for the purpose of obtaining a passport for two Mexican Prisoners that I have had with me out for two since last Summer. Two Boys who have behaved themselves very well and Mexican are anxious to go home to their friends they are both young and their conduct Prisoners has been such that I feel some interest in their being set at liberty. If a passport should be granted them you will please send it to me by Mail or otherwise by the earliest opportunity and oblige your

friend &c J. C. Hoskins. P.S. The names of the Two Boys are Sebro Aguirre and Isabel Suniga. (J. C. H.)

P. Bryan relative to the Murder of A. Carol

Liberty, June 21. 1837. To the Hon. Sec'y of State, Sir. Your letter to Judge Coit requesting a Copy of the proceedings at the trial of John M. Smith and Wm. M. Smith for the Murder of Alfred Carol, was handed to me about a fortnight ago, X believing that I had not yet received all the papers pertaining to said trial, and our late primary Judge Wm. Hardin, being absent I awaited his return for information. He informs me that the evidence taken at the committment or summary trial, was not allowed at the final trial, and that which was taken at the final trial not having been recorded. I can send you only copies of the Indictment, Verdict of the Jury and the sentence of the Court.

Very Respectfully, (P. Bryan) C.D.C.

Copy of indictment

State vs. John M. Smith and Wm. M. Smith

Indictment for the Murder of Alfred Carol. February called Term of the Court of the first Judge of the Jurisdiction of Liberty. State of Texas, Department of Nacogdoches. Jurisdiction of Liberty. Before the Honorable Wm. Hardin first Judge of the Jurisdiction of Liberty. The people of the State of Texas for themselves and in behalf of the State complain to your honor and charge & do say that John M. Smith and Wm. M. Smith of the State and Jurisdiction aforesaid, not having the fear of God before their eyes, but being moved & seduced by the instigation of the Devil, on the Seventh of October one thousand eight hundred and thirty five in the jurisdiction aforesaid with force and arms in and upon one Alfred Carol in the peace of God and of the State, feloniously, wilfully and of their malice aforethought, did make an assault, and that the said John M. Smith and Wm. M. Smith, a certain rifle Gun, Musket, Shot gun & pistols of the value of Two Dollars each then & there charged and loaded with gunpowder & balls, bullets, and buckshot which guns & pistols they the said John M. Smith and Wm. M. Smith in their hands there and then held to against and upon the said Alfred Carol then & there feloniously wilfully and of their malice aforethought did shoot and discharge, and that the said John M. Smith and Wm. M. Smith with the balls, bullets and buckshot out of the Guns and pistols as aforesaid then and there by the force of the gunpowder, shot, discharged and sent forth as aforesaid, the said Alfred Carol in and upon the left side To wit, upon the fourth & fifth ribs of him the said Alfred Carol then and there feloniously wilfully and of their malice aforethought as aforesaid, did strike penetrate and wound, giving to the said Alfred Carol then and there with the balls bullets and buckshot as aforesaid out of the said rifle Musket Shot gun and pistols, shot as aforesaid by the said John M. Smith and Wm. M. Smith in and upon the left side as aforesaid and upon the said ribs of the said Alfred Carol one mortal wound of the breadth of four inches and of the depth of ten inches, of which said mortal wound the said A. Carol then and there to wit, on the said seventh day of October and

the Jurisdiction did die.

And the people as aforesaid further do charge & say that the said John M. Smith and the said Wm. M. Smith on the day and year aforesaid not having the fear of God before their eyes, but being instigated by the Devil did, make an assault upon the said Alfred Carol, and that they the said John M. Smith and Wm. M. Smith, with force of arms and with their hands and feet, the said Alfred Carol to and upon and against the ground, then and there to wit, upon the day and year aforesaid, and in the Jurisdiction aforesaid, feloniously wilfully and of their malice aforethought, did cast and throw and that the said John M. Smith and Wm. M. Smith with sticks staves & bludgeons and with a large iron prow, and with other unlawful and murderous weapons, did then and there and whilst the said Alfred Carol was so lying upon the ground the said John M. Smith and said Wm. M. Smith in and upon the head neck breast shoulders and sides of him the said Alfred Carol then and there feloniously wilfully and of their malice aforethought did strike, beat and wound, giving in manner and form as aforesaid to the said Alfred Carol divers large and mortal wounds and bruises of which several wounds and bruises the said Alfred Carol then and there to wit, on the day and year aforesaid and in the Jurisdiction aforesaid did die.

And therefore the people as aforesaid do charge and say that the said John M. Smith and the said Wm. M. Smith the said Alfred Carol in manner and form as aforesaid, feloniously wilfully wickedly and of their malice aforethought did shoot, kill, slay and <u>murder</u> contrary to law and against the peace and dignity of the State.

P. C. Jacks.
for the State.

Attorney's for the Prisoner

And now upon this the twenty second day of February One thousand eight hundred and thirty six, the prisoners appear in their proper persons and for plea in their behalf they declare and say, that they are not guilty of the charge as is alleged against them, and of this they put themselves upon the country.

James B. Woods & D. G. Burnett.
for the Prisoners —

And the prosecutor doth the like.

P. C. Jacks.

I certify the foregoing to be a correct Copy of the proceedings of the Court in the within named Trial as shown on record now in this office.

P. Bryan
Clk. D. C.

Verdict of the Jury

And the Jury having retired brought in the following verdict to wit.

Municipality of Liberty, February 26. 1836

We the undersigned Jurors in the case of Murder, The State against John M. Smith and Wm. M. Smith defendants, we do agree according to the evidence produced to us, that Wm. M. Smith is Guilty of the indictment, and John M. Smith accessory, we therefore recommend

him to the mercy of the Court. Signed,

Saml. Rodgers	Alex. Baxton	Wm. H. Hodges.	Burrel Eaves.
Dan. Dumahoo.	James Cole.	Hezekiah Williams	Jr. Reason W. Boyce.
F. C. Rector.	Thos. Cope.	Thos. D. Yocum.	J. F. Winfree.

Sentence of the Judge

Whereupon the Court pronounced the following sentence to wit. John M. Smith and Wm. M. Smith, you have been arraigned at the bar of your country upon a charge of the Murder of Alfred Carol.

After the most attentive, full and patient investigation of all the facts offered by you in defence — after having been allowed every lattitude and indulgence which a regard to Justice and humanity would permit the Court to grant — after having the benefit of the able eloquent and ingenious counsil whose exertions deserved your warm gratitude, and whose abilities would have saved you, if legal learning and ingenuity could have availed you. And here let me remark as regards the prosecution that the Counsel for the State extended to the accused every lattitude and indulgence which justice to his County would permit him, that he manifested no greater warmth or vehemence than the occasion called for — and allowed the prisoners the full benefit of all their testimony. That he represented the State with ability must be admitted by all. He done his duty. A Jury of your countrymen have pronounced you Guilty of the foul, awful and horrid crime of Murder. When we consider the character of that Jury — a Jury composed of men of your own choice, whose characters for honesty, humanity and intelligence is so unquestionable, the Court cannot but conclude that nothing but a full clear and indubitable conviction on their minds of your guilt, could have induced them to render a verdict of condemnation — To the correctness of that verdict the Court is compelled (painful as is the duty) to add the sanction of its opinion.

The Court has nothing left but to pronounce the sentence of the law, and here let me enjoin you to use the short time between this and the awful moment of your execution in a preparation to meet a just and merciful but I fear an incenced God; whose laws you have violated — whose image in your brother man you defaced — let me beseech you look to that God for Mercy; he alone can save you, and I awfully fear from the apparent indifference which you have manifested that you are illy prepared to render an account at that bar where nothing is concealed; where the secrets of all hearts shall be laid open.

And here I cannot but indulge the hope, the belief from the solemn and imposing scene which we have this day witnessed — from this awful example we may all be taught the necessity of bridling our passions, and of controuling our tempers — and that the records of this Court of this Jurisdiction may never again be blurred and stained by an accusation of Murder.

You John M. Smith & Wm. M. Smith are to be taken back to the place of confinement, there to

be kept in safe and close custody until Friday the twenty fifth day of March next from whence you are to be taken to the place of execution when between the hours of ten o clock in the forenoon and two o clock in the afternoon you are to be hanged by the necks till you are dead. And may the Lord have mercy on your souls. Liberty, Texas, Febr. 26. 1836.

Wm. Hardin, Judge.

I certify the foregoing to be a correct Copy of the proceeding of the Court in the within named trial as shown on record now in this Office.

T. Bryan, Clk. D. C.

Mina June 27. 1837. To the Hon.

Rec'd. Sec'y of State, Sir, Permit me to recommend to your consideration Greenleaf Fisk Esq. Clerk of the District Court for the County of Mina, for the purpose of obtaining the records of this County said to be in the Secretary of States' office in the City of Houston. I have the honor to be your ob't. serv't.

A. Robb. Chf. Justice

B. D. McClure relative to the boundaries of Gonzales

Harisburgh July 7th. 1837. R. A. Irion

Sec'y of State Sir, Having been appointed Chief Justice of the County of Gonzales by the Congress last winter, it became my duty to have made the returns of the County boundary to your Office by an act of the same Congress, but on account of my commission being misplaced by some County means, and has not yet come to hand, I have defered it to this time.

The boundaries of Gonzales are as follows. (there being no conventional act regulating the boundaries, therefore the boundaries of the Colony of De Witt, which has heretofore formed the municipality of Gonzales). Beginning on the La Bacca ten leagues from the Bay, thence with the main La Bacca to its source, thence due north to the San Antonio road, thence west with the San Antonio road two leagues west of the Guadaloupe river, thence with the meanders of the Guadaloupe river two leagues west, within ten leagues of the Bay, thence with the ten border leagues of the Bay to the beginning.

The counties east are a part of Jackson Colorado and Mina. North by the colony of Milam. West by Bexar. South by the County of Victoria. I would take the liberty of suggesting to your honor the propriety of relinquishing part of Gonzales on the south to Victoria and extending the boundary west as far as the Cibolo, as there are a few of the citizens returned to that county and seem desirous that the County should be organized it would give general satisfaction if there could be an order for an election of county officers.

Yours Respectfully

B. D. McClure

Boundary of Red River County.

Beginning at the mouth of the Sulphur Forks of Red River, up that stream to Trammels crossing, along said trace to the Saline, up that stream to its source, thence due west to the Trinity River, up said stream to its source, thence north to Red River and down that to the beginning.

G. W. Wright
Off.

Boundary of Colorado County.

Beginning on the Bernard at the Matagorda County line and running westwardly to the western boundary of Austin's Colony; thence north on the line of said Colony to Buckners Creek; thence down said Creek to the La Bahia Road; thence along said Road to the dividing ridge between Comens Creek and Mill Creek; thence down said dividing ridge to the main or principal fork of the Bernard, and thence down said Bernard to the place of beginning.

Boundary of Sabine County.

Beginning on Sabine River one mile below Domingo's Ferry; thence running a due West to the Patroon Bayou; thence on said Bayou to the County line of San Augustine at the mouth of the North Fork of said Bayou; thence a straight line to the Widow Thompson's on the Polygotch Creek; thence to Hobby's Prairie on Ayish Bayou; thence to James McKinns so as to leave said McKinns in the County of Sabine; thence to the Widow Winfrey's on the Rodd leading from Zavalla to Hickman's Ferry; thence with said Road to the Sabine River; thence up said River to the beginning.

Rud.

Hon. Secretary of State, Dear Sir, You will please furnish me with a copy of a resolution passed at Columbia in relation to the Chaplains in Senate and in the House of Representatives, as also the Resolutions of the late Session on same subject.

I have the honor to be your friend & Servt.

July 1837

J. W. Moody, Auditor

D. W. Moreland.

Capitol, Thursday morning, July 1837

Hon. Secretary of State, The bearer of this Emily D. West has been since relation to my first acquaintance with her in April of '36 a free woman. She

Emily D. West

emigrated to this Country with Col. Jas. Morgan from the state of

Jno Moreland,

New York in Sept. of '35, and is now anxious to return and wishes a pass port. I believe myself that she is entitled to one and has requested me to give her this note to you. Your obt. Servt. J. H. Moreland

Her free papers were lost at San Jacinto as I am informed and believe in April '36.

(Moreland)

Wm. McFarland
Resignation as Chf. Justice

(The following letter was referred to the State Department.)

Nacogdoches, July 8th. 1837. President Houston will confer a favor in accepting my resignation of the Office his Excely. was pleased to bestow to wit, Chf. Justice of the County of San Augustine as I have domiciliated without the limits of the County.

The prosperity of Texas, whose destinies you have been made to preserve, and that the arbiter of the fates may continue your success and that personally you may be happy has ever been the wish of him that always has wished for your friendship.

Respectfully (Wm. McFarland)

Chas. G. Hammond
passport

Matagorda, July 10. 1837. Hon. Secy. of State, Dear Sir, It is impossible for me to go to, or through the City of Houston, and being obliged to leave Texas for a short time, I have been advised to request a passport from your Office to be enclosed to me here by Mail if consistent with your duty, I shall be much obliged.

Yours truly (Chas. G. Hammond)

Judge Dinsmore being absent at the request of Mr H. I would state that he has been a resident for some time of this County and is entitled to the favour above requested:

Thos. M. Dennis. Clk.
County Court Matagorda

Read.

San Felipe, July 6. 1837. Hon. Secy. of State, Sir, You will confer a favor on his friend by sending him all the Acts of the first and last Congress.

I wish you also to subscribe for the Telegraph and tell Dr. Moore to send me a couple of doz. blank Deeds, for which I will settle when I come to H.

I have determined to hold forth at present at this place, believing I am more certain to make a pecuniary rise than at any other point. Let me hear from you.

Your Friend (I. W. Burton)

Chas. S. Taylor
List of County Officers

Nacogdoches, July 20. 1837. Hon. R. A. Irion, Secy. of State; Sir, In accordance with your request I annex a list of County Officers to be commissioned by the President it would have been forwarded before but the difficulty of making out a correct list owing to resignations and removals was the principal cause of delay. Most Respectfully your obt. Servt.

(Chas. S. Taylor. Chf. Justice)

List of the several County Officers, duly elected, and sworn into Office.

Majistrates

Bartlett H. Simpson
Thos. D. Brooks.
× Elijah Gossett
× Wm. S. McDonald.
× John Grigsby
× Wm. Sims
Wm. Renarke.
Jesse Watkins
Chas. Grayson

Associate Judges.

Wm. Hart
Jesse Watkins.

Constables

E. E. Hamilton
Wm. P. Chisum
Edwd. Fitzgerald
A. C. Walters.

Sheriff

David Rusk.

Coroner

Jos. Whiteomb

Clerk Cty Court

Dan. Lacy

Clerk D. Court

W. R. D. Speight.

N. B. Those Majistrates marked with an asterisk, are now within the limits of the new County of Houston. Wm. Sims has since removed from his District, and Constable E. E. Hamilton has resigned which vacancies when filled will be duly returned.

J. P. Coit

Liberty July 14. 1837. Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec. of State, Sir, I herewith transmit the result of the election Returns of held in this County on the first Monday of February last.

Liberty Co.

Sheriff.

Wm. M. Logan.

Justices of the Peace. Hugh B. Johnson. Henry W. Farley. Silas Smith. Thos. H. Lewis. John C. Read. Spencer Kirkham. Theo. Dorsett.

Respectfully your ob Servt.
Dan'l P. Coit
Chf. Justice

J. P. Borden

At Major Burghams, July 23. 1837.

Relative to the Land Office

Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec. of State, Sir, Through my hurry to leave the collection of Capitol on yesterday I neglected calling upon you to inform you of my arrival of departure although I particularly intended so doing in order to inform you of the steps I had taken towards collecting the Land Office papers.

I am truly sorry that I should have so unceremoniously left you; and I have no other excuse to offer by the way of apology only my anxiety to get away from that place as I was detained longer than I contemplated on my arrival there.

I did not succeed in getting any one to go to Nacogdoches for the Archives; but I made out some despatches for that purpose expecting that Mr Gregg would carry them. I therefore wish you to write to such as you may deem proper for the more readily getting possession of them. Col. Grayson and

Brigham can inform you more particularly on this subject. Meanwhile I remain your Obt. humble Serv.t John P. Borden.

Jos. Baker. Making information generally

Bexar July 24. 1837. Hon. Sec.y of State

Sir I am ignorant of the courses which have prevented the receipt at this place of the proceedings of the late Session of Congress, and especially what was done, if any-thing respecting the elections of this County. The Judiciary of this County must remain wholly unorganized and consequently nearly powerless until it can be known, whether the elections already held have been confirmed or not. The inhabitants occassionally express a disposition to submit in all respects to the Civil authorities and expect that protection which in the present disorganized state of the Judiciary it is impossible to give. So far as the exercise of my duties as Chief Justice of the County extend, I have not met with the least resistance on the part of the inhabitants, but on the contrary a disposition to assist in the administration of Justice, has in all cases been manifest.

As regards the Military I regret to say that some discontent prevails, not to a greater extent however I am convinced, than might reasonably be expected, in any Garrison neither paid clothed, nor half fed. Although every exertion appears to be made by the Officers in command to maintain a strict discipline, it must be acknowledged that under present circumstances it hardly can be expected. I would respectfully take the liberty of suggesting to the Government the propriety of withdrawing the Troops to a situation where they will be prevented from committing those little acts of plunder and pillage which are unavoidable even in a well regulated Army.

The news from the West are rather flattering. From the concurrent information received from different sources it is rendered almost certain that nearly all the Troops are withdrawn from the frontier, and that a revolution is going on in the South headed by Gen. Montezuma. It is thought that the Federal party will succeed, and that propositions will be made to Texas to terminate the war.

I must again urge upon the Govem.t the necessity of a Mail between this place and the Seat of Government. We are as yet entirely ignorant of the proceedings of the last session of Congress and of the News in general from that quarter. The importance of this establishment must be seen and the expense would be trifling to Government. With due respect I have the honor to be, Dear Sir your most Obt. Servt.

Jos. Baker

J. T. Mason relative to A. Ivion, Sec.y of State, Negociation

Nacogdoches, July 15. 1837. Hon. R. Ivion, Sec.y of State, Sir I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 25. ult. communicating the request of the President that I would associate myself privately with the Texian

Annexation of Texas to U. S.

Minister at Washington, during the approaching session of Congress, in the furtherance of negotiations which may exist between the two Governments and especially that I use every exertion to effect the annexation of Texas to the United States. You justly estimate the deep interest I take in the prosperity of Texas, and as a sure guarantee of that prosperity I have always ardently desired this annexation. It will therefore be highly gratifying to me to aid in the accomplishing this object; and I shall repair to Washington as early as practicable consistent with engagements already made, and give to the resident Minister my hearty co-operation.

But as this service will be voluntary embracing no official station, I must be left to judge when my efforts shall cease to be useful and when to retire from it.

I have the honor to be very Respectfully your obt. Servt. John T. Mason

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Sydney O. Pennington. Requesting Certain Laws & information generally.

Shelby County, Aug. 1. 1837. Hon. Secy of State. Dear Sir, Shortly previous to my leaving Houston I obtained from your Department four Copies of the Laws establishing the superior District and County Courts which is all that we have in this County. Consequently several Officers of the County are destitute of the proper authority to act on the late Acts; those that were passed at Houston have not come on yet and none of the functionaries of the County can act understandingly for the want of them.

You will be conferring a favor on the citizens of this County and your humble servant by having such Laws and documents as we do indispensably need, sent to the County of San Augustine, for we yet have no Mail in our County. Have the goodness to send us all the means under your control to enable us to understand the Laws which have been enacted. You would confer a great favor by sending me one or two Copies of the Reports of the House of Representatives and of the Senate.

My health is still very bad. Our County is much excited about our elections. Judge Reaves I think will be our Senator. Capt. Hooper is a candidate but cannot be elected. Direct such documents as you may choose to send us to San Augustine and to Judge Lusk or your humble Servt. Sydney O. Pennington

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J. S. Rusk declining the appointment. State=

Nacogdoches Jan. 16. 1837. To His Excellency Sam. Houston, Dear Sir, I have received your letter of the 31st. December announcing my appointment to the office of Secretary of Sec. of State. I feel under many obligations to you for this additional evidence of your confidence. The recent death of my Brother=in Law has thrown upon my hands two families unprovided for, my first and highest duty, in the absence of an invading enemy, is to provide for them. I am therefore reluctantly compelled to tender you resignation of the office conferred upon me. Should it

Country be invaded as seems to be apprehended, she can against command my services in the field at any sacrifice.
I have the honor to be truly yours, Thos. J. Rusk.

J. Woodward, relative to the adoption of respects to the rules and usages of the British Consulate

New York, Jan. 16. 1837. His Excellency Sam. Houston, Dear Sir, To prevent smuggling and also in other respects to preserve and enforce the nationality of the Republic, and maintain a proper system of observation as to the intercourse, and in the spirit of what passed while in Texas between the Secretary of State and myself, I have thought it best, except in peculiar cases to adopt the rules and usages of the British Consulate here, as to the papers and clearances of vessels, passports and other matters. It is the only foreign Consulate here, whose habits and language assimilate to our own, and whose general principles are interpreted by the common law of England which Texas has adopted. I should be happy if this observance should meet your approbation. Texas as a nation is daily gaining elevation and solidity in this quarter of the Union, and my time is almost constantly employed in giving information in answering letters from various quarters as to its government, prospects, resources &c. The interest taken in its affairs is very great, and the emigration to it will be extensive and of the most eligible descriptions. Propositions for important enterprises of settlement are very frequently made to me, as well as those connected with its supplies and means and I have only to lament the want of direct power on such subjects. I am careful to explain the basis and character of our national credit, so as to give to the evidence of that credit its merited name, and to account satisfactorily for the momentary want of funds. I have not failed in laying a proper impression in any one instance. The conviction is gaining ground that Texas is destined to be the richest and most forward nation on this continent and that she is positioned so as to command the most eligible foreign treaties. I shall be happy to receive a communication from you General, as soon as your convenience or more important occupations will admit. And have the honor to be, with high respect and esteem, your friend and obt. Servant,

John Woodward

Washington City,

R. & D.

His Excellency Sam. Houston, Sir, The enclosed Letter was sent to me by Col. R. M. Johnson with the following note. "Col. Smith is a man of influence and worthy of your confidence, Respectfully R. M. Johnson". I transmit the letter to you agreeably to the request therein contained. With great respect, I have the honor to be

Wm. H. Wharton

See page 72.

Wm. H. Wharton & Ch. Hunt — Solicitng an appoint. in the Navy

Washington City Feb. 27. 1837. His Excy Sam. Houston, Dear Sir, We take pleasure in transmitting to you a letter from Capt. Wm. A. Weaver to us, soliciting an appointment in our Navy, also recommend a letter of introduction to yourself given him by your old friend Gen. Ward — ion of Capt. of New York. Gen. Ward is so explicit in his notice of the merits of Capt. Weaver — Weaver that it is needless for us to add any recommendation of our own, further than to express our full confidence in the correctness of his account of Captain Weaver's experience, accomplishments and high moral standing, confirmed to us as it has been by individuals of the highest respectability here. Capt. Weaver has shewn himself since our acquaintance with him, an enthusiatic friend of our cause and country and should the office he aspires to remain vacant until the receipt of this letter we beg leave to assure you of our decided conviction of his fitness and competency for that responsible station.

With the highest consideration we have the honor to remain your obt. Servts. Wm. H. Wharton, Memucan Hunt

(See following letter)

See page 72.

Wm. A. Weaver — Soliciting an appoint. in the Navy

(Recommended to Pres. Tex.)

Washington City, Feb. 24. 1837. Messrs Wharton & Hunt, Gentlemen, I have the honor to enclose you a letter of introduction to the President of Texas which I regret exceedingly it was not in my power to have delivered personally. I had hoped that my mission to Mexico, last fall on the part of this Government would not have interfered with my fixed intention of paying Texas an early visit; but having been delayed on my outward passage I found it impossible to avail myself of the kind indulgence of Mr Forsyth & to return to Washington in season for the message. Having seen the recent death of Com. Hawkins stated in the newspapers, it has occurred to me as a fit opportunity to make a tender of my sword & services to the cause of Texas, believing as I do that the Government of your State must be desirous of engaging in its ranks the professional skill of those who have had the advantage of a regular naval education in preference to others who possess only a knowledge of seamanship acquired in the merchant service I have determined to transmit to you the accompanying papers on the hope that your personal knowledge of me may lead to such a representation with the Government you represent as may induce my being appointed to the honorable situation which has now become vacant by the death of the Senior Naval officer. In the event of of the application being granted I shall hold myself in readiness at a short notice to assume the responsibilities of the station to which I aspire and to resign at once the Commission which I have now the honor to hold from the President of the United States.

Respectfully your obt Servt. Wm. A. Weaver.

W. H. Tennant — Relation to Indian depredations

Colorado, March 1. 1837. Mr President, Sir I am, after my respects to you under the painful necessity of informing you that the Indians have committed several depredations on the settlers of Mill Creek and Colorado. They killed a Dutchman by the name of Lotman and two Children, and killed Robinson.

presentative and his brother; they are stealing and killing our stock and we cannot help ourselves we are so few in number, that we cannot leave our homes to suit them. I am here the same as both hands tied four women to guard so that we cannot get out to see about them. If you cannot do something for us we are in a bad situation, and will no doubt be some of our women & children masacred the next time you hear from us. I have not seen any of them myself, but they come to see me and I was not at home, taken taken two horses, shot one of them, and left until the next time, and I do not know how long that may be for they are in the settlement, yet I can hear of them every two or three days. Nothing more but remain yours, most respectfully

W. H. Secrest

Rec'd.

Florence, Ala.a March 13. 1837. His Excell.y Sam. Houston, Sir, The undersigned a citizen of New York begs leave to solicit that your excellency will lay the accompanying memorial before the Congress of Texas at its next meeting. The memorialist rely upon your excellency's sense of justice to make such suggestions to the representatives of the people of Texas as the nature of the case requires.

Your excell.y's Ob.t Serv.t Wm. Vanwycke.

J. Ingram Resignation as Representative in Congress

Matagorda, April 5. 1837. His Exc.y Sam. Houston, Dear Sir, Circumstances over which I have no control have determined me to withdraw from public life. I therefore tender my resignation to you as a member of the House of Representatives of the first Congress of the Republic.

Please accept assurances of my high consideration, and believe me to be, most respectfully your ob.t humble Sert.

Jno. Ingram

W. H. Landrum Resignation as Senator in Congress

Sabine County, April 25. 1837. President Houston, Dr Sir, Having been confined for some time with an old contracted disease and in all probability will not be able to ride or do business for some months to come, makes it necessary I should resign my seat as Senator from the first District of this Republic and take this method of making known my views, your acceptance will oblige yours very respectfully

W. H. Landrum

Rec'd.

Post of Galveston, May 10. 1837. His Excell.y Sam. Houston, Sir, The enclosed package has been mislaid on board the Schooner Brutus. It came to my hand this day.

Very respectfully

Your Ob.t Serv.t

Amasa Turner

Wm. L. Fisher
Read

War Department, Houston, May 11. 1837. To His Excellency Sam. Houston, Sir, Enclosed I have the honor to transmit for your consideration a list of the Officers now actually engaged in service in the Army of the Republic of Texas.

Respectfully your obt. Servt.
Wm. S. Fisher, Sec. of War

A. Roberts
Read

Senate Chamber, May 26. 1837. His Exc. Sam. Houston, Sir, The Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Memucan Hunt, as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenepotentiary to the Court near Washington in the United States [redacted]nerica.

Also Albert T. Brumley and Thos. W. Gilmer as Commissioners to negotiate a loan of one Million Dollars.

Arthur Robertson Sec. Senate

W. L. Underwood,
Read
Mr Mathus & things generally.

Bowling Green, Ky. May 27. 1837. His Excellency Sam. Houston, Dear Sir, I presume upon the kind relations which subsisted between us last winter during my stay in Columbia to address you this letter. I cannot refrain from feeling the deepest anxiety for the prosperity and success of my adopted Country — and believe me further for the happiness and health of yourself and the success & glory of your administration. It will not be surprising then that amidst so many "rumors of war" I should appeal to the highest source of information concerning their correctness. I do this the more readily that should those rumors appear well founded and Texas demand the services of her citizens to defend her, I may act upon information from the highest authority in the discharge of whatever duties may thereon devolve upon me. We have it here that your entire Coast is blockaded, by the Mexican Fleet and that their Armies are already hovering over your western borders. Is this true? If it is pray tell me what naval armament our Country has to oppose these formidable preparations of our enemies. And by the way tell me whether the Maltese Barque &c. fitted out and equipped by that worthy "Signor" — John Woodward, Consul General of Texas, resident in New York, has made its appearance in your Waters prepared to "brave the battles and the breeze" — I should be happy also to know the number of our Land forces, where stationed and by whom commanded and more particular whether she wants more men to rally around her standard and volunteer to defend it. Your brilliant and overwhelming victory at San Jacinto, arrested me in some humble efforts I was making to bring a Regiment in the service of Texas, and I pray that the year and ultimate consequences of that Battle more glorious and wonderfull than any history recounts where the deity himself did not lend his mighty and outstretched arm, may enable the Citizens to rest secure beneath his vine & Fig Tree and banquet in the lap of Peace. If otherwise however it will afford me pleasure to do whatever I may to contribute to the success of the glorious struggle in which she is engaged. My

were so kind as to advise me to bring my family when I should emigrate to Nacogdoches, supposing that to be the best location for the practice of my profession of the Law. Please inform me how Houston would compete in advantage in that particular. I expect to be out with my family next fall, and I should be happy to follow your suggestions as to the place of my location. You have no doubt heard before this of Mrs Logan's marriage to Dr. Gorgin. You have also heard no doubt that we are to have a call session of Congress on the 1st Sep. next. The times are wretchedly out of joint in money matters with us. There is not a specie paying Bank in the union at this time. The suspension of specie payt. is in most cases a measure of precaution to prevent the drain of specie from Banks that were not broken by those that were. But I must conclude. Health and happiness to you with consideration your friend and Obt. Servt.

W. L. Underwood

New Orleans, June 26. 1837. His Exc'y

Sam. Houston, Dear Genl. I should have written you long since in accordance with your request when I left Texas, but I had nothing important or interesting to communicate, nor, in fact have I at this time, with the exception that I am greatly in want of regular and authentic information from Texas of passing events and particulary of the laws that have been passed and are in force, not one of which have I yet been able to obtain and I deem it of paramount importance that correct intelligence should be transmitted to this point at as early a period as practicable in order that the community may be advised of facts. I hope I shall not be kept much longer in the dark.

I have communicated the substance of the above some time since to the Department of State, and also the publisher of the Laws. I have frequent calls for intelligence in regard to the Civil political situation of our country, and it is extremely mortifying and annoying to me not to be able to communicate it and equally unsatisfactory to them.

Can it be possible that the report in circulation here is true that the Government will not receive her Treasury drafts in payt. of duties? if so I predict her credit is ruined in the U. S. It required propping before in order to sustain it, but now they will let go all support when they find she will not redeem her plighted faith.

I enclose you a notice inserted in the Commercial Bulletin of New Orleans. and will endeavor to send you a True American of the 9th inst. in which you will discover some notice of it over the signature of "A Texian".

Hoping to receive some authentic intelligence soon, I remain with high consideration

Your obt. Servt.

Mathl. Townsend

Mathl. Townsend
midwinter
information
sincerely

Sam Houston
Ans

At Blacks, June 2d. 1837. Doctor Irion Secy of State, In the hurry of business I forgot to request that you and Col. Grayson, would open all my letters and endorse them to the proper Department.

If any very pressing business occurs and advisement is necessary you will find Maj. Barr very worthy of confidence. I so stated to Col. Grayson. Your friend.

Sam Houston.

The following was received with a letter

L. B. Woodruff
relation
to the petition
of the Colorado
& Red River
Land Co.

New York May 18. 1837. His Excellency Sam. Houston, I am directed by the gentlemen composing the board of directors of the Colorado and Red River Land Company to request your Excellency to lay before the Congress of Texas their petition.

The company feel the utmost confidence in the justice of their claim and they rely with great satisfaction on the just and liberal views of a generous and chivalrous nation.

I tender to your Excellency in the name and on behalf of the gentlemen composing this association the assurance of their great anxiety for the welfare of your beautiful country and their high esteem for you personally. I remain your Excellency's most obt. humble Servt.

L. B. Woodruff.
Sec. Y of Colorado & Red River Land Compy

D. R. Henderson
relation to the
Mexico
Hy VB

New Orleans, July 20. 1837. His Excellency Sam. Houston, After a long and tedious passage we arrived in this City on the 16th. and will leave on to morrow for Mobile. We find Texas rather in better credit here than we expected to find it.

Major Allen has been busily engaged in settling with Mr Toby, with whom he gets along admirably well. That Mr Toby has done some things wrong I have no doubt but truly I believe he has done as well as any other person could have done under the circumstances and certainly better than any other agent has, which has come within my knowledge. Therefore allow me to request you <u>not to curse him any more until you hear all</u> — however a d — n occassionally may do no harm.

Since I arrived here I have discovered secretly that it is the design of Mr Plummer to make use of the letters of Marque and Reprisal which you have promised him, to cause a lawless invasion of Mexico, commencing at Metamoras & extending to Tampico, and that Gen. Felix is to head the band, now I would not have you to refuse the letters &c. but I do belaive that bad consequences would result to the character of Texas, if the Letters of Marque are not accompanied with such instructions and limitations as will prevent the proceedings which are intended by land. A fine ship has been purchased for the above purpose which could be a protection to our commerce if properly conducted under letters &c. There has been, no late arrival here from Mexico which

news of importance. I fear from what I can learn here that we may prepare for a separate existence as a Republic; if so I expect that several years will elapse before our Country will be as prospering as its friends desire. Your brother left here on yesterday. I have seen many of your friends who enquire anxiously concerning your health. Gen. Dunlap is here and will leave for Texas in a few days. Remember me to Richardson. I have been very unwell ever since I left Houston. Your friend, J. Pinckney Henderson

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P.W. Grayson relative to claim of Genl T.J. Chambers to the rank of Major General

Opinion of Attorney General P. W. Grayson

on the subject of the claim of Gen. T. Jeff. Chambers to the rank of Major General in the Army of Texas. Communicated to the Sec. of State July 1837.

On the question which has been presented by Gen. Thomas Jefferson Chambers in the claim he makes of being now a Major General in the Army of Texas, and entitled by Law to the Command of it. I have the following observations to make in support of the opinions I have given on the subject.

It should be distinctly [redacted] ind at the threshold that this is a question to be determined on strictly legal principals alone, and can in no wise be affected by any considerations which relates to the merits of the claimant, whatever they may be in the eyes of his countrymen or any one else. The same decision must be had upon it, as though he never, instead of being what he is, the most undeserving of mortals. In submitting his claim to the Command in Chief of the Army, he states in so many words that, that command devolves on him by the Military Laws of the Country – The question has therefore been made a strictly legal one by the claimant himself and in that character alone is now to be considered.

Gen. Chambers it appears founds his claim upon Laws passed by the provisional Government of Texas for raising an Army of Reserve and a commission of General of Division granted in conformity with that Law.

If there be any truth in the declaration of the day of November 1835 by the consultation which established the provisional Government, Texas was then not a Republic, but a rebellious State or part of a State of Mexico, battling for the constitution of "24. against what was then considered an unconstitutional and usurping Government. To attest the sincerity of that declaration light as it now may be held, a solemn appeal was made we know to the Arbiter of the Universe. The Law in question passed by the provisional Government on the day of Jan'y. 1836 for raising an Army of Reserve, must be taken and construed with reference to the object then in view – which was the restablishment of the Constitution of 1824. The fact that there may have been a reserved sentiment among many persons that Independence would

shortly be our position is entirely irrelevant in the present question. That Independence had not been declared - Texas was not a Republic and the question now is, whether an Officer commissioned to raise and bring into the field an Army for the express purpose of supporting the Constitution of Mexico, and sworn, if sworn at all, to contend for that object is an Officer without further commission under the present Gov.t which wholly disclaims any such object and goes for an existence independent of Mexico. Under this view of the subject without advancing any further there would seem to be no difficulty in determining the question in the negative.

It is however worth while to enquire what was done in the Constitution which may in any wise affect the subject under consideration. In Section 1st of the Schedule it is declared as follows "That no inconvenience may arise from the adoption of the Constitution it is declared by the Convention that all laws now in force in Texas and not inconsistent with this Constitution shall remain in full force until declared void, repealed, altered or expire, by their own limitation.

Were the law, by which Gen. Chambers Army of Reserve was authorized to be raised and his commission under that law, inconsistent with Constitution taken into connection with the object then in view, without which they certainly mean nothing at all, they surely were inconsistent - their object was to support the Constitution of Mexico. Our Constitution was expressly framed to disregard and to dissolve all connection with it.

If the law should be argued to remain untouched, so far at least as respected the mere raising of a certain number of men, that would amount to nothing for any practical purpose; since it certainly must be considered as repealed with respect to its object and consequently so with respect to any commission which had been granted with reference to that object.

In section 8th. of the schedule we find it declared that "All Judges, Sheriffs, Commissioners and other Civil Officers shall remain in office and in the discharge of the powers and duties of their respective Offices until there shall be others appointed or elected under the Constitution.

Is it not a fair interpretation of this clause to say that as Military Officers were not included in it, they were designedly omitted and consequently permitted to go out of office.

For this distinction there is in general abundant reason. In the first exigencies of a Revolution, Civil Officers, must be retained for a time to prevent a dissolution of Society; but often times there is much reason for letting the Military go out of office, in order to select a new, and reappoint only those who may be considered deserving of confidence with respect to the new position that is assumed. Be exceptions that may exist at any time of particular persons whose sentiments are well known as were those of Gen. Chambers, cannot in any degree be allowed to affect the general propriety of the distinct

But if it should be said that

were some officers who received Commissions from the provisional Govern.t who actually served under them after the Declaration of Independence, that only goes to shew that in the confusion of the time, the Government being in no condition to transact any business with regularity nothing certain could be done — in short that much was tolerated from necessity which was wrong in principal. But of those cases I am certain there were but few, if we except those of the unfortunate detatchments on the western frontier, about the time of the declaration of Independence whose peculiar situation admitted of no alternative, and who rising above the dignity of all earthly commissions gave themselves a more imperishable charter of immortality.

With respect to some others who had been Commissioned by the provisional Government, I think myself warranted in saying that they did not contend for their commissions after the change of Government. Burleson, who had received the appointment of General, Commander in Chief of the Volunteer Army at Bexar, was, as I am informed elected a Col. by the new Volunteers after the declaration of Independence, and before the Battle of San Jacinto, in which he commanded a Regiment. Col. Somerville and Col. Jack had both received commissions from the provisional Government while at Bexar the former I think was nevertheless elected anew before the last Battle and the latter if I mistake not served in it as a private.

But the law passed by the first Congress of the Republic entitled an Act to organize and fix the Military establishment of the Republic of Texas, would seem to put the question still further begond doubt. The 5th. section of that Law, says, "There shall be one Major General who shall be allowed two Aid, de Camp, who shall be appointed by him and who shall be entitled to the rank pay and emoluments of Majors of Cavalry. Two Brigadier Generals each with one aid de Camp who shall be appointed by him and shall be entitled to the ranks pay and emoluments of a Captain of Cavalry. Upon this it is proper to remark that two Brigadiers have been appointed, and appointed in the manner pointed out in the 16th. section which is as follows "That all Officers contemplated by this Act shall be appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate except those ~~w~~hose appointments are otherwise provided for in this Act.

As yet however a Major General, (whose appointment is not otherwise provided for) has not been appointed by the President, Can there then be such an Officer in existence.

If the view taken by Gen. Chambers of the subject be the correct one, that Officer was appointed before this Government came into existence, even before the birth of the Republic.

The General relies upon the 17th. section of the Law, which he is of opinion is particulary applicable to his case, and removes any objection that might be taken to the validity of his commission. That section reads thus, "That the commissions of those Officers now absent on the recruiting service shall be valid, provided said Officers shall muster into service of this Republic the requisite number of regular soldiers to constitute their respective commands by the first day of March next- otherwise said Commissions shall be null and void.—

We see here that regulars alone are alluded to. I believe that General Chambers does not claim to have been appointed a General in the Regular Army, in as much as at the time of his appointment there was but one Office of Major General known to the Regular Army, and its incumbent was General Houston. The section just given then cannot be considered as applying to his case (even if he were in commission at all, legally and regularly which is now the question) he never having been an Officer in the Regular Army, and not having mustered into service a sufficient number of Regulars to entitle him to the Command of a Major General. But even if he had been a Major General in the Regular Army and had actually sent into the country a sufficient number of Regular Soldiers to constitute the command of one his not being here himself within the time expressly specified would be fatal to his commission under the Law as it stands. Surely it is as important for an Officer to be on the ground in service as that his men should be. If the time fixed by Law is not to govern with respect to the validity of a commission, who shall say how much time must elapse before it becomes void by absence.

It may not be improper to take a view of the ordinance and decree of the provisional Government authorizing and commissioning Gen. Chambers to raise the Army of Reserve. The first section of the ordinance is partly as follows, "Be it ordained and decreed and it is hereby ordained and decreed by the general Council of the Provisional Government of Texas, that in addition to the provisions already made for establishing and organizing an auxiliary Volunteer Corps to the Army of Texas, a division of Volunteers shall be raised to be called the Army of Reserve for the protection of the Liberties of Texas, which shall consist of one thousand one hundred and forty five men Officers included. From this it appears that the Corps thus to be raised was a Volunteer Corps

To be able the better to arrive at the rank intended to be conferred on the commanding General, it will be proper to give the 2nd section " Second Section, Be it ordained &c that to raise organize equip and command the said division of Volunteers, a General shall be appointed and commissioned whose staff shall consist of one Adjutant Genl. one Brigade Inspector, One Brigade Quarter Master, One Brigade Commissary, One Brigade Pay Master and Two Aids." under the authority of this section as appears by his report, the General appointed one Gentleman Inspector General, another Pay Master General, and another Quarter Master General; It is evident he only had authority to appoint a Brigade Inspector, Brigade Paymaster, and Brigade Quarter Master &c.

His own Commission in its appointing words says " we &c do by these presents Constitute and appoint you, General of said division. Now the word division is of very indefinite import and may apply to fractions of a company or battalion as well as to those of the largest Army. Had this Corps of Reserve consisted of Two Brigades and consequently Two Brigadiers as well as a General of Division he who might have been appointed by the words " General of Division in such case might have claimed the rank of Major General with evident propriety altho' the style of Major General had not been used in the appointment But in the present instance as every circumstance is calculated to fix the size and character of the Corps, as being no more than a Brigade

the General who was appointed must be considered to have only the rank of a Brigadier in as much as in the commission he is not styled Major General, or General of Division, but General of said Division.

It is here important to consider that when Gen. Chambers left Texas the contemplation was, he would be on the field with his Army by the 15th. of the following May — unforseen and inevitable circumstances however prevented the accomplishment of this expedition. Had he been able then or at any time to have brought his Army into the field in something like a body so as to have preserved them a distinct ~~corps~~ according to the intendment of the Law which appointed him, there never would I apprehend have been any difficulty on the subject of Command. As it was he remained abroad to bestow his exertions in the way he deemed them most useful to the country and as no doubt they were most useful sending men as he could from time to time to enter into the service of the Country. The men coming as they did in detailed parties could not be kept apart for the Army of reserve, but were at once from necessity amalgamated with the main Army. But altho this mode of precedence on the part of the General does in no wise subtract from his merits as a citizen — has it no effect upon the validity of his Commission as an officer? Certainly it was not contemplated that he should take an indefinite time, a space of fifteen or sixteen months as it turned out, to send out men and then upon his arrival whenever that might be, claim the command of an Army of Reserve, which no where existed and at the same time take rank over other Officers in an Army with which he was not legally connected.

I think it unnecessary to notice particularly any of the circumstances that might be adduced which would seem to imply a recognition of Gen. Chambers authority while he was in the United States or since he has returned here; since a mere informal recognition, which is purely matter of opinion, can never supersede the necessity of an appointment and Commission as enjoined by the Law. Nor on the other hand to I think it material to consider the ~~circumstances~~ circumstances that might be referred to as repelling the idea of any such recognition & of these there are certainly some of a pretty impressive character. All considerations of these things I forbear as being quite unnecessary to the solutions of the questions in its present form, if the views I have taken of it on different grounds entirely shall be thought to have any solidity.

I may observe in conclusion that what I have here advanced is only meant to meet the claim of Gen. Chambers so far as it is urged as matter of right to the Chief Command of the Armies of Texas, that is to the office of Major General, the only office of that grade now known to Law; and my clear opinion is that in that character his claim cannot be sustained.

P. W. Grayson
Atty Genl.

R. Scurry

San Augustine Aug. 2. 1837. His Exc.y

tenders his resignation to Sam. Houston. After mature reflection I have came to the conclusion to resign the Office I now hold and no consideration can induce me to continue in the station in which I now am placed. I find that the Office is unprofitable, ungreatful &c. so long as I have held this situation I have endeavoured to do Justice to my country and credit to myself and I believe I have given satisfaction so far — but I am too poor to sustain the losses this Office has occasioned me. My motives in sustaining the Executive have been influenced in consequence of it, and I want to shew your enemies and mine that Dick Scurry supports the administration from principal and not from interest.

No earthly consideration can induce me to continue in my present Office I therefore tender you this my resignation hoping my successor may do more Justice to the country and credit to himself than your honest friend

R. Scurry

Wm. Bryan

New Orleans, Aug. 4. 1837 Hon. Sec.y

relating to the Brig Pocket.

of State, Sir, In my several letters to the Executive of Texas, under dates Feby. 22. April 12. & 21. (to which I refer) I urged upon the Executive the necessity of forwarding certain documents to save the loss of about ($9000.) nine thousand dollars for which I am bound in the United States Court, being value of the Cargo of the Brig Pocket, part of the documents were promptly forwarded by S. R. Fisher Sec. of Navy. Those proving the condemnation of the Brig as a lawful prize. The approval of the act of the Govt. and giving the record of the Court condemning her, under the great Seal of State, have never come to hand. The trial will come on early in Dec. and if such papers are not produced the amt. is lost; and a precedent will be established fatal to the future operations of the Navy in blockade. Will you Sir, do me the favor to forward such papers as are required, or such as can be obtained in relation to this matter, (in duplicate) as early as possible, or advise me that they cannot be obtained that I may have time to prepare to meet $9000. in Cash. by new sacrifices made to meet claims incurred for Texas. I confidently rely upon the known justice of the Executive to give an early attention to this communication, I have the honor to be yours Respectfully,

Wm. Bryan per. Sam. Ellis

P.S. The Trial has been put off until December on account of the indisposition and Death of the Judge.

Sam Houston

relative to Corpus Christo

Extract of a Letter addressed to Sec.y of War in regard to the method to be pursued by the Sec.y of State in regard to Smuggling in the neighborhood of Corpus Christi. From His Exc.y Sam. Houston, dated Nacogdoches, Aug. 4. 1838.

"On the subject of smuggling which is going on near Corpus Christi I would remark that it might be well for the Sec.y of State to apprize the Commandant of the French Fleet of the

facts as they are apprehended by this Government. And intimate to him that it might be judicious for him to despatch one or two small armed vessels to cruize on our Coast between Copano and Brazos de St. Iago, so as to detect any smuggling that may be attempted in contravention of the French Blockade in the Mexican Ports. This Government will not connive at any infraction of National Law nor has it any disposition to illude the measures of France, so far as she may deem necessary, to prosecute retaliating measures against Mexico."

S. Dinsmore
Return of
Election for
Matagorda
County

Matagorda, July 31. 1837. Hon. Sec.y of State, Sir I send you below, the returns of the officers elected for the County of Matagorda.

Sheriff.	Coroner.	Clerk of Dist. Court	Clerk of County Court
Isaac Vandorn.	C. H. Vandever	Jas. Morton.	Thomas M. Dennis

Justices of Peace.

Seth Ingram — E. R. Wightman
H. L. Cooke. District No. 1. District No. 2. Thos. I. Hardeman.

Peter Demos. — Constables. Thos. S. Tatem. Dist. No. 1.
John Huff. District No. 3. — Alvin B. Woodward " " 2.
Louis Demoss " " 3.

The above Officers have all been sworn into office and have given the bonds and security required by Law. Your most respectful & obt Servt.

Silas Dinsmore. Chf.
Cts. Matagorda Co.

P.S. Seth Ingram and Thos. I. Hardeman were duly elected associate Justices of the County Court.

S.D.

Jos. Baker.
Relations to the
murder of a
Mexican at
San Antonio

Bexar, July 27. 1837. Hon. Sec.y of State, Sir I deem it my duty to report to you a late occurrence which has occassioned some excitement in this place. On the night of the 20th. inst. a man named I. H. Nash stabbed a youth about 16 or 17 years of age a Mexican of which wound he died the day subsequent. The proper legal proceedings were had and a verdict was returned by a Jury of inquest of wilful and unprovoked Murder. Immediate steps were taken to arrest the perpetrator of the crime but he succeeded in making his escape. He was afterwards met on the Gonzales road by a gentleman on his way to this place. This information is given to enable the Executive should he think proper to take measures for his arrest for which purpose I subjoin the following description of his person.

Height about 5 feet 8 inch. black hair black eyes, stout built, ruddy complexion & about 28 years of age. All which is respectfully submitted by Dear Sir your obt Servt.

Jos. Baker

Joel Baker

Relative to Election and Return of Election

Bexar July 28. 1837. Hon. Secretary of State

Sir, Having accidently learned from a private letter that the returns of the elections held for this County on the first day of May last had not been received at the Department of State, I have the honor to enclose to you a Copy of the communication sent on that date. I have received letters from Houston acknowledging the receipt of others sent by the same conveyance, and cannot consequently account for the failure in this. This shows the urgent necessity of a Mail between this place and the seat of Government. On this date I write to the Post Master General making propositions for a Mail to be carried semi monthly from this place to intercept the principal western route at some convenient point. Of the importance of this measure there can be no doubt and I entertain a hope that it will be carried into immediate effect.

I know not what was done by Congress respecting the organization of the Counties where the elections were not held at the proper time, but I presume that an act was passed for the benefit of all that were in that situation. If so commissions will probably be forwarded to those elected for this County. I have also to inform you that the person elected Coroner for this County did not present himself within the time prescribed by Law, to be qualified; this Office must consequently remain vacant until a new election can be held.

With high consideration I have the honor to be Dear Sir, Your very Obt. Servt. Joseph Baker

P.S. I also enclose a Copy of the returns of the elections to prevent the possibility of mistake.

J. P. Henderson

Rec'd.

Mobile, July 24. 1837. Hon. Sec'y State

Sir, After various delays we all arrived in this City safe. Major Allen will detain us two days at the end of which time we will resume our march for Charleston. Dr. Archer and Mr Fisher are with us.

I have directed Mr Toby to have my letters forwarded to Baring Brothers & Co, Bankers, London; such as you send please have them sent through Mr Toby to the same house.

I have written to Gen. Houston and Col. Grayson upon the subject of the Letters of Marque and Reprisals, which Mr Plummer will apply for. I think they ought to be granted to him but with the proper limitation and restrictions and for the reasons I will refer you to the Letter which I wrote to Gen. Houston. I am too much engaged to write at length. Your Friend J. P. Henderson

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Rec'd.

New Orleans, July 29. 1837. Hon. Sec'y of State, Sir, By request of our mutual friend J. R. Allen, I have this day shipped to your order on Board Steam Boat Crusader & Consigned to G. Borden Collector Galveston fifteen bundles of printing paper for the use of the Government. By this Mail I send two express letters from Washington City to the Sec'y of State. I take this opportunity of tendering to you my services in this place.

Respectfully Your Obt. Servt. Jas. Brent Clark

I. Parker
Concerning County Officers

Mustang Prairie. Aug. 3. 1837. His Exc'y Sam. Houston, It is all important that you forward the writ of election for electing of our new County Houston, a failure of which will deprive us of our Representative in Congress and all our County officers. As I am well acquainted in the different parts of the County I will say to you where the different precincts should be held and proper persons to manage the same. Let one election be holden at the house of Israel Redding, Mustang Prairie, and said Redding to manage the same. Also one at the house of William Dillard — Dillard manager. One at the Town of Houston, Roland Box manager. One at Brownville, Sam. Wells manager. One at Leonard Williams, Williams manager. One at Jacob Masters' Wm. S. McDonald manager.

The time being short is the reason why I recommend the number of places I do for holding the elections. Our settlements North and South is at least eighty miles, and at least 50 east and west, tho' in a scattering situation.

If you will forward the writ of election to Israel Redding Esq it will be correctly attended to and forwarded to the different places of election.

Worthy President, It is right for you to instruct the seven Commissioners when elected to locate the seat of Justice to confine themselves to the bounds of the constitutional county which we petitioned for at the last session of Congress. Unless you give this instruction the Commissioners will be at a great loss to fix the seat of Justice in the centre of the present bounds, will place the seat of Justice in the wilderness where no good can never be derived from it. Do this and we can go on smoothly. I am Sir your constant friend and most obt. Servt. Isaac Parker

P.S. Whereas the Mail is very uncertain and the order from you all important I have solicited Col. Wm. Mitchell to obtain from you the aforesaid order and forward it to us with the least possible delay. I hope therefore you will deputise him for that purpose.

I. P.

P. W. Grayson tenders his resignation as Atty General.

Houston Aug. 10. 1837. His Excellency Sam. Houston, Sir, Being about to depart for the United States where I shall be absent on business of importance for the space of two or three months I have thought it my duty to tender to you my resignation of the office of Attorney General, which I have to request you will be pleased to accept. I have the honor to be respectfully your obt. Servt.

P. W. Grayson

M. Harley Returns his election &c

Nashville Milam County. Aug 4. 1837. Hon. Sec'y. of State, Sir By a late publication in the Telegraph I noticed that the County of Milam is mentioned as having made un=

perfect returns. Returns of the election of Sheriff and all (To wit) four Justices of the Peace have been made to the State Department. Not being aware of the imperfection alluded to in said publication any information from the Department will be very acceptable and promptly attended to.

Very Respectfully your Obt. Servt. Massillon Farley

N. B. Enclosed you will please find the Bond of the District Court Clerks for this County as the Law requires that the same should be "lodged in the Office of the Secy of State. (M F.)

S. H. Everitt,

Jasper, Aug. 15. 1837. His Exc'y Sam. Houston

relative to the Sir, will you do me the favor to have such Laws as are printed sent to the distribution different Justices of the Peace and other Civil Officers of this County. Fault is of the Laws found with the Executive for not executing such laws as have been passed by Congress or not even promulgating them. I desire to have all complaints removed if possible, and if you will give me the means I may do much toward it, accept my warmest wishes for your welfare and happiness and believe me truly yours, friend and obt. Servt. S. H. Everitt.

N. B. will you call an extra session, if you intend to do so please let me know by next Mail. (S. H. E.

Sam Houston

City of Houston, Aug. 15. 1837. Hon. Sec'y

Rad, of State, will be so kind as to cause Two Proclamations to be issued for the apprehension of Richards and Humphrys agreeably to the information of the Attorney General of this District. Let a Reward of $250. be offered for each. Your obt. Servt. & friend Sam. Houston

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A. Rabb

Mina, Aug. 17. 1837. Hon. Secretary of

relative to State, Sir, Pursuant to a notice from the Department of State which Comm.ns for I have seen in the (Telegraph) it becomes my duty to notify that Department Comm.d Offic.rs that the Commissions for Civil and Militia officers of this County have not yet been received. Nor have I yet received a commission as Chief Justice of this County.

I have seen the Presidents proclamation dated the 31st. July last, commanding the Chief Justices of the County Courts forthwith to proceed to appoint Assessors of Taxable property as contemplated by a law, entitled "An act to raise a public revenue by direct Taxation", passed on the 12th. day June last by the Congress of this Republic. Not having received or seen that Law I am at a loss to know how I am to comply with his excellency's proclamation.

Yours Respectfully A. Rabb. Ch. Jus. Min.

A. Millard

Beaumont, Jefferson County, Aug. 18.

relative to the appointment Hon. Sec'y of State, Dear Sir, Our Chief Justice the Hon. Chichester of Orig. Chaplin having resigned and removed to San Augustin places us con Justice

necessity of having another appointed. A petition will be forwarded by Judge Ewing, signed by a number of the most respectable inhabitants of this part of the County, for the appointment of Joseph P. Pelsifer Esqr. for that important office. Mr Pelsifer has been a resident of this County, for more than two years, and a more honorable and upright man I have never known. And I do believe we have not in our County a man more capable, and would certainly be the choice of at least four fifths of the citizens of our County, and had we time to send the petition over the County, more than that number would sign it. If you will use your influence with the President in his behalf it will be a favor thankfully acknowledged and reciprocated by your friend & obt Servt

Henry Hallards

Chapline
Election
Return of
Jefferson Co.

Jefferson County, Aug. 19. 1837. Hon. Sec. of State. Sir, Having understood that the returns from this County have not been received, I inform you that an election was held according to law in this County, the return of which I immediately made out and forwarded to the then Secretary of State by the first mail. Some failure in the mail has, most probably, caused them not to reach their destination.

I avail myself of a private conveyance to inform you that Geo. A. Pattillo and Creason Green Esqrs. were elected Justices, William Stevenson Sheriff, Bradley Farmer Coroner, Herbert E. Boothe Clerk of District Court, and Thomas H. Brewer Clerk of the County Court. All which I do hereby certify. Respectfully

Chichester Chapline Ch. Cts.

Morton
Matagorda
Hon Stephen F. Austin
Houston

Matagorda Aug. 31. 1837. His Excellency

My dear Friend, The good of our country in view, a close attachment, which is required in local matters in individual capacity, and the offering of a nomination of proved on this subject I present most particularly to have received your attention. Our late Judge Silas Reinsmore has resigned his Judgeship, and is now a candidate for the lower house this coming fall. His resignation makes it necessary that we should have a judge appointed forthwith to fill the vacancy. Myself in conjunction with most of the Citizens and business men, have selected as the most suitable man to fill the said vacancy, Senator R. Servant from Texas and well known in Texas. This gentleman we have thought best to recommend to your favorable notice for said office, believing that the good of both Town and Country will be conducted in his appointment. Of course, no individual can suit all, consequently some of our citizens have thought proper to recommend an individual now staying in our Town not a Citizen, a Mr T. Delap, a native of Ireland who came into this country in the latter end of January last, and has made this Town his residence since. Obtains and has recently declared himself a citizen of Great Britain, and says he has never sworn allegiance to any other country. This statement he made recently in addressing a long article to the British House of Parliament applying for redress

for good pole taken from their Champion last spring. I feel every confidence that you agree with me. That in a necessity does not exist to import foreigners to fill the most respectable offices of our Government. I feel a deep interest on this point and I assure you that in conversations that no one could misunderstand, I have ever been an abolitionist in principal — but so it is this memorial is out and through the most indefatigable exertions a long list of signatures, names will be attached. The above assertions (if necessary) I pledge myself to substantiate. From the intimacy existing between us I am thus plain, feeling satisfied that the petition of Mr Cervais with a respectable number of signatures would be all sufficient — it is forwarded. Should you have anything to communicate relative to anything that may become before a future Congress I hope you will communicate freely, as it will be received confidentially.

Most Respectfully yours, A. C. Hanford.

A. Chaplin

Registrar Houston, Tex.

Jefferson, Aug. 22. 1837. His Excellency Sam. Houston, Sir Being about to remove from this County, I hereby transmit to your Exc'y my resignation of the office of Chief Justice which your Excell'y will please to accept of.

I take the liberty of recommending to your Excellency George A. Pillo Esquire, one of the associate Justices as a proper person to fill the vacancy. I know of no other individual in the County as capable as he is and I believe that his appointment would give satisfaction.

Respectfully, your Exc'y's mo. obt. Servt. Chichester Chaplin

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S. H. Jacks,

Recommending C. A. Bullard's State, Matagorda, Aug. 22. 1837. Hon. Secretary Mr. Charles A. Bullard of this town, has been induced by his friends for Register of the office himself as a candidate for Register of the Land office at this place.

the Land Office: Mr B. is a young man of business habits and fine talents and no one can come better recommended for character and moral worth, he is in every respect deserving and well qualified to fill the appointment, and I earnestly solicit for him your recommendation and support. I am Very Respectfully your friend & serv't

Spencer H. Jacks

B. T. Archer

A. H. Austin

Washington City, June 6. 1836. To the

Secy. of War, Government of Texas, Sir Having that we could not effect anything with the money relative to the market or with the Government until we received an absolute declaration of recognition of independence by Texas and special powers and instructions to present it we have purposely delayed getting to Washington until such time as we thought we by W. S. & could certainly meet with the declaration, and also with the appointment having if done one of us, or some body else to lay the matter before the Government officially. We knew that until such positive declaration with powers to treat it we could be of more use, in exciting the public mind in behalf of the South and Texas than we could be of here. Accordingly held meetings and made addresses at all important points the result of which you have doubtless seen from the papers.

have received the Declaration through the press, but we have not received it officially and it is therefore useless to us. This Government will not act upon it until it is presented to them by some one with ministerial powers from the same convention that made the declaration. When presented in this form with evidence of our capacity to maintain our Independence we believe this Government is prepared to recognize us, and if we wish to admit us into the union on liberal principals if the people of Texas wish it. But they require a Minister with full powers to treat on the subject. If we had these powers Texas would have been by this time recognized if not admitted into the Union.

We have made every effort to obtain loans in conformity with our powers but have not succeeded owing to the want of the full authority and the information as to the capacity of Texas to sustain its Independence above stated.

Finding that nothing material can be done here at present and that the most important object under existing circumstances is to obtain money, we have concluded that this object can be best promoted by operating at various places at the same time. S. F. Austin therefore leaves here to day for Philadelphia and New York and B. T. Archer will leave to morrow for Virginia for the purpose of trying to negotiate the Government Bonds. W. H. Wharton in the mean time remains at this place to attend to such matters as may be important to the public interest.

B. T. Archer. S. F. Austin. Wm. H. Wharton

T. J. Rusk
E. Burleson
M. Barrala

Camp San Jacinto May 4. 1836. To the President, Dear Sir Ten days have now elapsed since the Battle at this place and of the propriety of the Army having at once taken up the Matamoras line of March no one could have doubted for a moment. We are gaining nothing after nothing and our enemy are certainly loosing nothing by our delay. There are provisions at the Island which we greatly need, we have prisoners of War here which must be transported there, we have also arms, our force is not sufficient to take care of these prisoners and arms. And also march upon the enemy as we should. There are steam Boats at the Island which might long e'er this have transported the prisoners to Galveston, and transported our baggage, (for it must be recollected that we left all baggage waggons behind to make a forced March on the enemy) to Harrisburgh. There is also business of great magnitude to be transacted here by the Executive Government, all these things must be known to every one. Those of the Cabinet who are here have waited with great anxiety for the arrival of yourself and the Secretary of the Navy with the Steam Boats and provisions; hopes have been deferred and expectations have been disappointed. We entered the Cabinet with reluctance, we have no ambition to gratify by the possession of office but the good of the country. If things are to go on as they have done for the last few days we have no desire further to be connected with transactions that must result in the injury of the country. We may speak too much in the spirit

of complaint but we have suffered much by seeing the golden moments of action drag heavily away, when our country is bleeding at every pore without the corresponding action upon our part, and when we find ourselves cramped in every way, we cannot but feel it lead heavily upon us. Will the other two members of the Cabinet come up here? Will the Steam Boats be sent with provisions for the Army? We hope these questions will be soon answered. We are truly yours,

Thos. J. Rusk Sec. of War.
Bailey Hardeman Sec. Treas.
Lorenzo de Zavala.

J. Collinsworth resignation as Secretary of State on this reasons

Velasco May 13 1835. To the President and Members of the Cabinet. Gentlemen. It becomes my duty in pursuance of that candour which has ever characterized my conduct both public and private in taking leave of you as a member of your Cabinet, briefly to state my reasons for so doing. In the first place you are well aware that it was an appointment not sought by me and one on which I entered with great diffidence. Not only in this country but in the land of my nativity have I repeatedly declined offices no doubt more than equal to my ability to fill them which facts are merely alluded to to shew that I have always set a higher value upon the ability to dignify an office than merely to possess it. You will then understand that it is my wish you shall accept this as my resignation of the appointment of Secretary of State in the Cabinet of Texas.

But while I thus take leave of you and can assure you that I do so with feelings of kindness that time which alone can test the truth of all professions will never efface. I cannot but notice some things transacted by this Government which has given dissatisfaction to many and pain to myself. And among other very just causes of complaint is alledged that of having conferred the highest offices in your gift such as foreign Ministers, Brigadier Generals, Foreign Agencies, and many other appointments upon persons who had not been in the country except temporarily upon speculation, injurious to the best interest to the exclusion of many better qualified who had resided among you and done the state some service.

Do not understand me by this by any means to assume long residence in the country to qualify a man for office. On the contrary every endeavour should be held out to bona fide emigrants by early allowing all rights and privileges due to their merits. But I do most positively object to exclusive privileges or exclusive patronage; or should you think this language too strong; a preference being given to strangers merely because they are strangers or favorites; merely because they are favorites, this has been charged and I fear that although it may be untrue and I hope it is, yet that it in some instances looks too plausible not to be believed by many. And in this deplorable state of humanity and disposition to censure we should not only endeavour to preserve a conscience void of offence but to avoid all reasonable ground of suspicion.

These hints you will understand as general remarks not intended either to criminate or wound the feeling

of the President a one single member of the Cabinet, for all of whom as I have before stated individually and collectively the highest respect and kindest feelings.

Apart from what I have already stated there are other reasons which do not leave me at liberty to remain longer among you whatever might be my individual wishes upon that subject.

I left the place of my nativity about fifteen months ago with the intention of returning in a short time to settle considerable business which I had on hand both of a public and private nature. Sickness in the first place and the interest I felt in your struggles for liberty afterwards has detained me up to this period and without claiming to merit applause I shall be more than satisfied for the little I have done either in the field or the Cabinet, should I escape just ground of censure.

The result however has been to bring upon me considerable pecuniary loss at home and absolute indigence here, having expended what little of means I brought with me and accumulated some debts without having ever called on or received from the Govern.t one cent in any way whatever or one Acre of Land while, many in your country arriving here long since I did and performing no public service have received large grants of the most valuable lands in your country. Under these circumstances you will see the necessity of the cause which I am constrained to take on this occassion however strong my wishes might be to assist in your council and mingle in your society.

I am with feelings of the deepest respect your Friend & obt. Serv.t

James Collinsworth

Executive Department, Columbia Dec. 24 1836

Recd. Hon. Sec.y of State Sir, you will please issue to Thomas R. Jackson Esq 2.d Master Cavalry a passport to go to the United States.

Yours Sam. Houston

A. Ward

introductory See page 53.

recommending Capt. Weaver

Washington, July 4. 1836. Gen. Sam. Houston. Dear Sir, Allow an old friend and fellow Committee man the liberty of introducing to your attention and kind offices the bearer of this letter Capt. Weaver and my intimate friend Capt. Weaver. Understanding that Capt. Weaver is desirous of locating himself in Texas I take pleasure in recommending him to your especial notice under the full impression that he will be a usefull acquisition to your new State and that his literary tallents and naval knowledge will be duly appreciated by yourself and the Govern.t of Texas.

Capt. Weaver received a liberal & classical education at Georgetown College which he has since improved by the acquisition of the French Spanish & Italian languages. He was thirteen years in the Navy of the United States and was always considered a brave, meritorious and accomplished sea officer. He

served throughout the war with great Britain, was severely wounded by the side of the gallant Lawrence and possesses a store of nautical knowledge rarely surpassed in that service. For the last five years his literary talents have been employed in the Department of State where he has edited the Diplomatic Correspondence of the U. States from 1783 to 1789. published in seven volumes in a manner highly creditable to himself and satisfactory to the Government. The difficulty of this task will be more fully understood from the fact of the originals of that correspondence being written in several languages. Mr Wearer's own writings are strong and nervous and display considerable talent. I have but one further remark to make respecting Mr Wearer and it is this, that I have known him intimately for many years and that his moral character is entirely irreproachable and that he has ever deported himself as the man of education and the gentleman and I sincerely believe he will prove eminently useful if employed by your new State. I have the honor to remain with sentiments of the highest consideration Your most obedient humble Servant

A. Flood

Sam C Houston

Executive Department, Columbia Octo. 25. 1836. Thos. Toby Esq and Thos. Toby and Bro. Gent.n It gives me pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your communication to my predecessor in office of the 15th. inst. And in apprising you of the recent change which has taken place in the administration of our public affairs I am happy to be able to tender the acknowledgements due for your exertions in our behalf and to request that you will continue to exercise the powers conferred upon you as agent for the Republic of Texas.

Change of Administration

The wants of the Army will immediately demand your exertions, and the supplies intended to be procured by Col. A. Huston will go far to relieve those wants. You are particularly desired to render to Col. Huston all the assistance within your power. The credentials furnished him by my predecessor will be sustained by me for the purposes contemplated by his mission.

Supplies for the Army

If you can succeed in negotiating the individual bonds at a per centum allowance of 12½ cts you are authorized to do so upon the faith of this Government. But more than that amount of interest would be considered extravagant and improper.

Negotiation of Bonds

The method heretofore resorted to of raising supplies and defraying contingent expences by means of scrip for land will now be discontinued as Congress has commenced a course of legislation on that subject. Other sources of public revenue will be established and if in addition Congress should authorize a further issue of scrip you will be instructed how to accomplish the views of this Government in that respect.

The correspondence will in future be continued in my name and any intelligence affecting this country directly or indirectly will I trust be promptly imparted to you as heretofore. Files of the Texas public papers will be desirable as they keep up a connection of events transpiring abroad. You will be pleased to favor me with these as often as may be practible. If you

Memorandum

have been able to get possession of the land presented presented by the Ladies mentioned to you of the Harrisburg, you will be pleased to cause them to be surveyed and claims duly entered by the earliest opportunity.

Memorandum

The organization of our Government is now completed in accordance with the constitution and we now look forward with the brightest anticipations to the attainment of those ends for which it was established to the happiest results and for security established by the treaty.

Congress will greatly need the supply

Salaratus

of saleratus recently ordered by my predecessor and in addition you may send 100 large trafes for unpressing the dead of this Republic, and also a quantity of good sealing wax. With high consideration I have the honor to be.

Sam. Houston

A. L. Trand
Agent of the Comanche & Wacos

Fort Jackson, Nov. 7. 1836. This Day Captain Comanche & Wacos, they in conformity with your instructions proceeded West and Wayerah as soon as circumstances would permit to their last and my way to the Comanche Indians, and Wayerah Indians. Immediately on my arrival at New Orleans your Depts on Messrs Toby and Brother was honored by these gentlemen.

I have been somewhat pecuniarily taxed in my progress to this place where I arrived six days since. I intend to take my departure for the Prairies in company with the wagons of the traders. This circumstance affords me facilities for the transportation of necessaries.

My arrival among the Indians will probably take place in about ten days from this time, when I shall hurry through my business with them so as to make as early an appearance in Texas as possible.

On my arrival at this post I consulted with the President of the Board of Commissioners for the Indians, with the propriety of my course with the Comanche and Wayerah and he sanctioned them. This step I thought proper.

I apprehend no difficulty in transacting my business with the Indians, I proceed shall again and as soon as possible, notify you of my progress.

I have the honor to be with much respect your humble servt.

A. L. Trand

T. Toby & Bro.
Houston

New Orleans Nov. 10. 1836. This Day they have none of your favor to reply to. The detention of Sheriff Congress arrived a few days since leaving the month of the Brazos April brought no letter, was obliged to sail having lost her anchor while at anchor off the Bar. Col. Houston has succeeded to the least and we have not heard from him since he left. We feel satisfied he will be able to effect sale of Sheriff Jarnigan's land and make remittances necessary for the Army. We are cannot sail, and the Cam. Texas arrived under date of 23 ult. from New York as follows.

"you are doubtless prepared to believe that nothing can or will be done here in the sale of ships for the present. All classes, in fact the whole community, are crying out unprecedented pressure in the money market 2 pr. c. to 3 pr. c. premium offered for the best paper by brokers for a few days. Under such a state of things what could be expected for ships? we answer, nothing, not something, must be done, and as bad as things appear, I will not abandon my position and will hope for a favorable turn."

We think we can dispose of sufficient ships. Rodgers and to despatch the Boston and Lawrence, and there is a twenty gun Barque Pennsylvania armament all complete for which $18,000 was asked and hopes to buy her for $9 frigate in ships, if so we will immediately despatch her. The vessel is now in good order and built for a man of war and will pass. The Brazil Brig had sailed some weeks before under General Santa Anna command with emigrants. We expect about 50 emigrants to arrive from Kentucky belonging to Gen. Hamtrack's Brigade which are still forward on arrival.

On arrival from Tampico yesterday bringing nothing new. We hope soon to hear of the safe arrival of the Somers and the vessels that started for Texas about the same time.

The last Mexican Brig from Bullmore was stolen about ten days ago off the Hole in the Wall and no doubt reached their ports in safety.

I am Respectfully, your obt. Servt. (Chas. Ogden Rodgers)

Extract.

Senate Chamber, Nov. 12. 1836. Resolved, that Houston, by the Senate advice and consent to the nomination of Wesley M. Rangel and Henry Millard, with authority to treat with certain tribes of Indians on Trinity River.

Attest, Samuel Cooper Secy. Senate

Washington & Collingwood.

Bazoria, Nov. 13. 1836. To the President Commissioners of the Republic of Texas, by the undersigned in conjunction with Mr. C. & U. States Chargé Gen. were appointed the second day of June last, commissioned on the part of this Government to the Court of Washington. The duties with which they were charged will be learned by a record of their credentials and instructions on file in the office of the Secretary of State.

They accordingly repaired with as little delay as possible to Washington City. When they arrived there they found Congress adjourned and the President of the United States on the point of setting out for the Hermitage. The undersigned impressed with the importance of an interview with them, proceeded to their residence from the seat of government, called on them immediately. He briefly informed them that nothing could be done until he heard from an Agent despatched from the Government of the U. States to the Government of Texas, to enquire into the civil and political condition of the latter country. But referred us to the Foreign Secretary of State for all further communications on the subject. We saw Mr Forsyth and for

our credentials, they were formally objected to for the omission of the seal of State being affixed to them. We immediately wrote to the President of this Republic informing him of the fact and requesting him either to supply the omission or grant us leave to return. Informing him also that the undersigned would repair to Nashville and the other to Louisville and await orders.

A short time afterwards it was deemed more expedient that one should remain at Washington, as something might arise or occur that would render even an unauthorized agent of Texas useful at that place. Upon consultation between Mr Grayson and myself it was determined that he should remain at Washington and that I would repair to Nashville, where I would be more likely to have an opportunity of discussing the objects of my mission with the President himself at the Hermitage to advantage than even at Washington. I accordingly repaired to the former place and saw him frequently while there. He informed me in substance that nothing could be done until the Congress of Texas met and organized a more formal and regular Government than that then in existence. Deeming myself without power to act and anxiously awaiting the orders of my government I determined to remain at Nashville until I could hear from the President of this Republic.

On the 21. Oct. last I received the enclosed letter marked A. which I considered finally ending any pretence of authority on my part to act as an Agent of this government and I accordingly set out for this place the next day.

It might be further necessary to state that previous to the arrival of the letter last referred to, I had addressed a letter to the President of the U. States a copy of which if desired I will furnish briefly setting forth the objects, powers and policy of the subjects with which I was charged. Without pretending to have received any official information upon the subject which of course I could not do for the reasons above stated, I think I may safely hazard the opinion that the present executive of the U. States is in favor of all the measures contained in our instructions. Should the present government believe in the same policy, I cannot too forcibly impress upon them the necessity of despatching some one forthwith vested with plenary powers to the Court of Washington, as in my opinion much may be endangered by delay to bring these matters before the approaching session of the Congress of the U. States at an early period of its session. With this brief view of the subject I remain your obt. Servt. James Collinsworth

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Nov. 16. Senate Chamber, Nov. 16. 1836. To His Exy Sam. Houston, Sir The Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Wm. H. Wharton as Minister plenipotentiary to the Court of the United States of America at Washington City.

Mirabeau B. Lamar Pres. of Sen.

Nov. 25. Senate Chamber, Nov. 25. 1836. To His Exy Sam. Houston Sir The Senate unanimously advise and consent to the nomination of the Hon. J. Pinckney Henderson to the office of Attorney

General - as requested, in your communication of yesterday. R. Searcy, Sec. Sen

S. P. Carson
Pa. Hamilton 1836. His Ex. Sam. Houston, Sir, Douglas Place, Palaski Co., Arkansas, Nov. 28.
Comm. Ts. I not knowing who may compose your Cabinet, a brief statement of the manner in which I fulfilled the mission upon which I was despatched by the Gov. of Texas --- "ad in terim" of Texas under a commission bearing date 1st. April last 1836.
Superseded

Should my despatches to the Gov. have reached a reference to the files containing them, will afford all the particulars up to July, when Cols. Collinsworth and Grayson superseded all other Agents, and at which time I ceased to act.

On reaching Alexandria on Red River La. a rumour had just reached there by a Steam Boat from Nachitoche that there were great apprehensions of Indian disturbances on our frontier, upon the head waters of Trinity, we learning also that Gen. Gaines had passed up Red River to Cantonment Jesup. I took the first Steam Boat which passed the same day and proceeded to Nachitoches when I met with Gen. Gaines.

What occurred at that point and what passed between that distinguished officer of the American Army and myself was communicated forthwith from that point. One despatch to his Ex. D. G. Burnet President, and one to yourself as Commander in Chief of the Army. Those despatches I have understood were received.

From thence I proceeded to my residence on upper Red River where I had left my family — the great exposure of which I had been subjected in my journey brought on a severe attack of typhoid pneumonia or Influenza — which confined me ten days so soon as I was able I proceeded on my journey to Washington City, which place I was not able to reach until the 22nd of June; this detention was caused principally, by my very feeble state of health — which compelled me to delay at various points to recruit my strength. At Louisville Ky. I had a very violent attack which confined me some days. Mrs Carson would not consent after my sickness at home to be separated from me in consequence of my debilitated situation and therefore accompanied me throughout my travel.

Meeting with Messrs Hamilton & Childress on my arrival at Washington City we adopted such plans and measures for the furtherance of the objects with which we were charged as seemed most expedient at the moment — all of which the Gov. have been advised of by previous despatches.

The resolutions which finally passed the Congress of the United States on the 4th. July were forwarded to the Gov. of Texas accompanied by some details &c. I will take leave however here to remark that nothing could be more gratifying to the feelings and pride of a Texian than the debate in the U. S. Senate upon the resolutions referred to. The feelings manifested towards us were most generous and kind — and far from being the least pleasing incidents of the debate was the marked respect with which your name was treated and the eulogies bestowed by some of the most distinguished debaters which seemed to be responded to by every Senator present and

crowded auditory. Many were the tears that fell in the Senate that day.

Under the authority granted by the Executive Gov.t to obtain a loan of Money to supply the wants of the Army Mr Robt. Hamilton Esq. was thought by the Cabinet to be the most suitable person to effect that object in fact! He was therefore commissioned by the President on the 2nd day of April last; his commission was confided to me for delivery to Mr Hamilton which I bore and delivered to him at Washington City.

Mr Hamilton set out shortly after to Philadelphia on his mission at which place I joined him immediately after the rise of Congress. To detail the course we pursued, the conversation we had with gentlemen upon exchange &c &c, would be useless sufficient to say that we had an understanding with large Capitalists at that place, that we should proceed to New York create a Gov.t stock at such a rate of interest as we might think advisable and put them into Market there, and they the Capitalists of Philadelphia assured us that they would take liberally at whatever we would start our Stocks or bonds in New York. Upon this Mr Hamilton and myself proceeded to New York, sounded the Money Market and were arranging our plans of operation when to our surprize and astonishment there appeared in the Gazettes of New York the following proclamation extracted from the N. Orleans papers.

To judge of our feelings and decide upon our defamation could only be done by persons placed in similar situations. But great as our chagrin was and much cause as we had to complain we deemed it better for the cause of Texas to bear it in silence, had we taken any other course we should have been compelled to give a flat contradiction to the President and publish in the public prints the authority under which we acted and had pressuned to borrow money upon — but we preferred submitting to the injury rather than bring the authorities of the Republic into dispute in the only country from which we could expect aid and in which our dissentions at home had been sufficiently magnified and done sufficient injury. I also thought and hoped that the omission of the name of Mr Hamilton as one of the Gov.t Agents to obtain money in the Proclamation of the President was a pure inadvertance or "casus omissus" which would be rectified immediately but in this I have been disappointed and Mr Hamilton and myself remain to this day under the odious light of having attempted to obtain money without authority from the Gov.t which we professed to be serving, and this is the more extraordinary as the commission of Mr Hamilton is not only signed by President Burnet in his official capacity but every word of the Commission is also in his own hand writing. Under this statement of facts I submit it to the Gov.t as an act of justice they should order cause to be published from the Records of the Gov.t a Copy of the Commission under which Mr Hamilton acted.

I dare it useless to say anything upon the probabilities of our obtaining a Loan, I will only remark that then

never had been a more propitious time and the credit of the country, on so just a footing. Your glorious achievement at San Jacinto — the head of the Mexican Govt. your prisoner — the favorable resolutions of the American Congress just passed (unanimous in one branch and almost so in the other) but above all the universal spirit which pervades the American people in our favor the troops that had gone on and were going, gave the strongest guarantees of final success to Texas and consequently her credit in the Southern Cities better than it ever had been.

From New York Mr Hamilton and myself returned to Washington City, where we met with Cols. Crittenden & Grayson who seemed to be charged with all the detail necessary, to be discharged, in the absence of the Republic. To them I stated my determination of proceeding to the White Sulphur Springs of Va. for the restoration of my health. Since which time I have been attending to my health and had hoped that I was restored till a recent attack had thrown me quite back and I am barely able to make this communication. With profound Respect and Consideration I am Sir, Your obt. Servt.

Wm. P. Condon

Senate Chamber, Dec. 1. 1836 To His Excellency Sam. Houston Sir, The Senate unanimously advise and consent to the nomination of M. B. Lamar and D. G. Yates Esqs. as Commissioners to negotiate a loan &c as desired in your communication of the 30th. Nov. 1836.

R. Searcy Sec. Senate

Confirmation of nominations

Senate Chamber, Dec. 1. 1836. To His Excellency Sam. Houston, Dear Sir, The Senate advise and consent to the following nominations unanimously.

Chas. C. Hawkins Post captain. Wm. P. Taylor, do. Geo. Wheelright, Master Comdt. Henry Livingston Thompson, do. Francis B. Wright 2d Lieut. Jno. W. Taylor do. John M. McLethese do. J. W. Humphreys do. Jas. Mullus do. M. Forest Surgeon. Wm. Thos. Brenan Purser. Francis F. Chrisman Surgeon. Richard Cochran do. Thos. H. Laing. M. Hurd and Henry Fisher Purser.

R. Searcy Sec. Senate

Private

New Orleans Dec. 6. 1836 To His Excellency Sam. Houston. Sir, We have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your Proclamations & several laws to 19 ult. By the express Mail of yesterday we received an envelope enclosed and forwarded by James Mott Esq. a letter (confidential) addressed to you which we forward by this conveyance. He says nothing on the subject of the Bonds and Securities, and the knowledge we have of their being seized is an extract from a New York paper saying that agreeable to some statute of the State the officers and crew of those vessels are in the custody of the Sheriff and we are of opinion it and in consequence of there being many American Seamen on board. We are anxious to learn their fate and their detention is really unfortunate in it leaving your Coast unguarded. The

contents of the letter we judge to be Swartwout Esq. Collector, and probably is on the subject of this vessel.

Col. Castillo and Capt. Pilthabad reached Galveston Island some days ago having made their escape from Mexico and are now deserted and will proceed to Mexico where they will make the Officers fact known.

Escapes of late

Gen. M. Hunt leaving by this conveyance and can inform you of the state of the Money market in this country. In New York good paper is stated selling a 2/2/6 prime. and if this state of things continue we are apprehensive nothing can be done in the contemplated Loan of Five Millions of Dollars.

The Hon. W. H. Wharton left here the day after his arrival for Washington via the West.

Very Respectfully Your Obt. Servants.

Thos. Toby & Bro.

Senate Chamber, Dec. 8. 1836. To His Exc Sam. Houston Sir The Senate unanimously advise and consent to the nomination of Joseph C. Williams as Captain of the Texian Private Armed Schooner Terrible.

Nomd

R. Searry Sec. Senate.

Senate Chamber, Dec. 12. 1836. To His Exc Sam. Houston Sir The Senate advise and consent to the nomination of F. Catlett as Secretary of Legation at the Court of the United States of America, near the City of Washington as requested in your communication of the 10. inst.

Nomd.

R. Searry Sec. Senate

B. E. Bro.

Relative to Tennessian. of Santa Anna to Washington City.

Vicksburgh Dec. 14. 1836. Steam Boat

Dear Gen.l We had a fatiguing journey of twelve days from the seat of your hospitable friends house, more through water than on land, so much as to induce Gen. Santa Anna to say "he believed he would have made better progress in the Independence, Com. Hawkins, than on our ponies". but we were on too important a mission to let difficulties overcome us. We reached Washington (Nefo ville) without accident and there took Steam Boat which brought us within nine miles of Plaquimine, to which place we were conveyed in a carriage, and where this Boat very soon made her appearance. At Natches last night Col. Hockley went a shore for a moment and hit and brought our friend Mr Ross on board who has continued with us to this place, he has promised to forward our letters to you. At Louisville or Lafeating we will drop you a line to relieve you of all anxiety. Gen. S. H. is in fine spirits and speaks of you often. Your kindness to him you may be assured will not soon be forgotten. You are by this I hope at your favorite retreat, the cares of office, the crowd, the confusion, to say nothing of the "Fleas" of Columbia will all be obliterated in the quiet and charm of home. I am told it is a delightful place and nothing will give me more pleasure than to hear from

your own pen, that you are constantly in health and are living on the fine lands of the Farm. We have no news except the certainty of Martin Van Buren's election. He carried Pennsylvania and West Tennessee — the wise at been expected. Tennessee respected would still stand. John C. White. All well in remembrance.

I am dear Sir with great esteem and under a thousand obligations, Yours.

Barnard E. Bee.

Confirmation of Capt. Sam. Houston & Lieut. Nominations to office.

Senate Chamber, Dec. 15. 1836. To His Excy Sam. Houston Sir, The Senate advise and consent to the nomination made in your communication of Dec. 7. 1836. To wit,

For the County of Gonzales. First Company.	For the County of Maria. Second Company.	For the County of Shelby. Third Company.
Jno. H. Eastland Capt.	Mich. Andrews Capt.	Rob. C. Lusk Capt.
Jos. Robinson 1st. Lieut.	J. H. Wade 1st. Lieut.	J. P. Applegate 1st. Lieut.
Nath. Mitchell 2nd do.	Nicholas Coen 2nd do.	Chas. Strickland 2nd do.

County of Shelby cont.d from above.

Fourth Company.	Fifth Company.
Thos. H. Barnard Capt.	David Monroe Capt.
Chas. Curtis 1st. Lieut.	W. H. Monroe 1st. Lieut.
W. M. Campbell 2nd do.	McLaughlin 2nd do.

Major of Battalion.	Surgeon	Ass.t Surgeon.
W. H. Smith.	J. Ramsey.	R. Montgomery.

Ro. Searcy Sec. Senate.

Gen. Hockley report of Santa Anna to Washington City.

On board Steam Boat Tennessean near Natchez Dec. 13. 1836. To His Excy Sam. Houston Sir, I have the honor to report our progress thus far without accident and all in excellent health.

On the 9th we had a severe and fatiguing ride, by the mouth of clear creek, Cedar Bayou, Lynchburg, Old River, Phillips Plantation at which the General rested part of the day, crossed the Sabine at Bailey's Ferry at which place the Guard is stationed thence to Colomas, and to Natchez or Washington; from which we took Steam Boat after but a few hours detention, and arrived at Vicksburg on the Mississippi River at noon on 11th. in about two hours from our arrival the Tennessean appeared in sight and we were received on board. Thus far we have no reason to complain, the weather having been remarkably fine during our journey and we have been generally fortunate in meeting a conveyance. I shall proceed in this Boat to the mouth of Cumberland River unless overtaken by a Louisville Boat and from thence have the chance from the Boats passing up this River; those from St. Louis and from Nashville to Louisville; from whence the Packet Boats run regular up the River; the Ohio is said to be clear of Ice but the weather is cold.

We escaped recognition or detection most wonder

but one or two instances having occurred and they unimportant. General Santa Anna, Col. Almonte, Col. Bee and Major Patton present their respects to your Excellency, with whom I have the honor to offer my own and to be with high respect your Exc.y's most Ob.t Serv.t Geo. W. Hockley.

G.W. Hockley of no consequence

Steam Boat Tennessean, Dec. 13. 1836. His Exc.y Sam. Houston, My dear Sir, Should an opportunity offer I should be pleased that my thanks and probably those of the Republic might be added to Mr Samuel Whiting, for the accurate description of our persons and the names of my companions given to the persons in charge of the Steam Boat laying at Lynchburgh — it had its full effect in causing me great annoyance for the time, which I presume will be satisfactory. But I would advise when next he attempts manouvering with a soldier even as young as myself that it would be proper to look well to his rear as well as his front. We are all in fine spirits and health as you will find by our letters as I believe Col. Bee and Maj. Patton both write by this opportunity. Very Respectfully sincerely your friend & ob.t Serv.t Geo. W. Hockley

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Mr Harden relative to the escape of Mexican Officers.

Liberty Dec. 9. 1836. His Exc.y Sam. Houston Dear Sir, I have only a moment to write but will write at length in a few days. I have been absent for the last month in pursuit of the Mexican and those who aided them in their escape. I pursued the Mexicans within a few miles of the Town of Opelousas. Since I returned home I have arrested three persons charged with aiding them, and Capt. Logan has arrested one other; they will be sent to Columbia as soon as witnesses can be procured. Since my return two days ago I have been informed that the people of the Peches have tried convicted and condemned to be hanged a Mr Wallis charged with house burning &c and that he has petitioned for a reprieve. As the offence was committed in this County I feel bound to take notice of the matter, and shall send the Sheriff forthwith to take charge of Mr Wallis (the Prisoner) that he may be dealt with according to Law. As I understand you have been informed of the matter I should like to hear from you on the subject.

Very Respectfully Your Ob.t Serv.t Wm. Harden

Confirmation of Nominations

Senate Chamber Dec. 15. 1836 To His Exc.y Sam. Houston Sir The Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Miles F. Smith Commissioner for the purposes contemplated in the 10th. Article of the Charter of the Bank of Agriculture and Commerce as made in your communication of the 15th inst.

The Senate likewise advise and consent to the nomination of the Hon. Judge Jno. Woodward as Consul General as made in your communication of the 15th. inst.

R. Searry
Sec. of Senate

Confirmation of Nominations for the Office of District Attorneys

Senate Chamber, Dec. 19. 1836. To His Excellency Sam. Houston Sir, The Senate has this day advised and consented to the nomination of Richardson Scurry, A. M. Tompkins H. E. Hudson. and John Record for the Office of District Attorneys, respectively for the first second, third and fourth Districts of this Republic. Your obt Sert.

M. Farley Asst. Sec. Senate

Senate Chamber, Dec. 20. 1836. To his Excellency Thos Sam. Houston, Sir, The Senate has this day advised and consented to the nomination of Asa Brigham as Treasurer of this Republic.

R. Scurry, Sec. of Senate

Senate Chamber, Dec. 20. 1836. To His Excellency Thos. Sam. Houston Sir The Senate unanimously advise and consent to the nomination of John W. Moody as Auditor of Public Accounts contained in your Message of the 20th. inst.

R. Scurry Sec. Senate

Confirmation of Nominations for Chief Justices

Senate Chamber, Dec. 20. 1836. To His Excellency Sam. Houston, Sir, The Senate unanimously advise and consent to the nomination of the following gentlemen as Chief Justices of the several County Courts as contained in yours of the 20th. inst.

Thomas Barnet	for the County of Austin
Geo. B. McKinstry	" " " " Brazoria
Jos. Baker	" " " " Bexar.
Matthew Parker	" " " " Sabine
B. D. McClure	" " " " Gonzales.
W. H. McIntire	" " " " Goliad
Andrew Briscoe	" " " " Harrisburg.
Jos. Mott	" " " " Jasper.
Chichester Chaplin	" " " " Jefferson.
D. P. Coit	" " " " Liberty
Silas Dinsmore	" " " " Matagorda
Andrew Robb	" " " " Mina.
Chas. S. Taylor	" " " " Nacogdoches.
Robert Hamilton	" " " " Red River
John McHenry	" " " " Victoria
Wm. McFarland	" " " " San Augustine.
Geo. C. Lusk	" " " " Shelby.
John Dunn	" " " " Refugio
John Turner	" " " " San Patricio
John P. Coles	" " " " Washington.
Massillon Farley	" " " " Milam.
Patrick Usher	" " " " Jackson
Wm. McNeece	" " " " Colorado.

R. Scurry Sec.

Nominations by Sam. Houston, Dec. 20. 1836.

Senate Chamber, Dec. 20. 1836. To His Exc. Sam. Houston, Sir, The Senate refuses to advise and consent to the nomination of Thomas J. Green as Senior Brigadier General of the Army of Texas as contained in yours of the 20th. inst.

And also refuse to advise and consent to the nomination of General Felix Houston as Junior Brigadier General of the Army of Texas contained in yours of the 20th. inst.

Do. — R. Searry. Sec. Senate

Do. — Senate Chamber Dec. 21. 1836. To His Exc. Sam. Houston Sir, The Senate this morning reconsidered the vote of yesterday on the nomination of Felix Houston as Junior Brigadier General of the Army of Texas, and now advise and consent to the nomination

R. Searry. Sec. Senate

Confirmation of nominations — Senate Chamber Dec. 22. 1836. To His Excellency Sam. Houston, The Senate advise and consent to the appointment of Robert Barr as Post Master General as contained in your communication of to day.

R. Searry. Sec. Senate.

J. Toby & Bro. relative to the Schooner Carolla — New Orleans, Dec. 23. 1836. To His Excellency Sam. Houston, Dear Sir, It is probable that the Schooner Carolla may sail from this port this evening, but as we are under the belief that she draws too much water to be able to pass the Brazos Bar and might be lost, we defer writing in full till to morrow by the Sch. Texas.

Commodore Hawkins came up this morning from the Pass, we will our utmost to get him off as soon as possible. Yours Very Respectfully

Thos. Toby & Bro.
pr. T. Burt Clark.

Mexico. P.S. Gen. Mexia called this morning to shew us a letter received from a friend from Victoria, Tamulipas, stating that Gen. Bravo had thrown up his Commission, the whole Troops had revolted and were daily dying by hundreds from Cold and hunger.

T. T. & Bro. pr. T.B.C.

Wm. G. Hill Resignation — Columbia Aug. 22. 1837. To His Exc. Sam. Houston, Sir, Circumstances over which I have no control, compel me to resign my seat in Congress. I regret that I am compelled to adopt this course at this time, but there are obligations which I have to perform that are imperative. You will therefore receive my resignation

I am dear Sir your ob.

Wm. G. Hill

F. F. Wells. Resignation

Texana, Aug. 24. 1837. To the Hon. R. A. Irwin Sec. of State, Sir, I have been sometime acting as Justice of the Peace for the County of Jackson and finding myself entirely unqualified by previous habits of the Peace - besides an entire want of inclination, likewise my constant engagements in the practice of Medicine as to render me altogether unfit to discharge the duties thereof, I therefore request the liberty of resigning, hoping you will send me the earliest information of your acceptance possible. Thereby much oblige your humble Servt.

Francis F. Wells.

S. Dinsmore Resignation

Matagorda Aug. 28. 1837. Hon. R. A. Irwin, Sec. of State, Sir, You will please to consider me no longer elected as Chief Justice of the County Court of Matagorda after the third day of September Quarter next and will file this in your office as evidence of my resignation.

Your most respectful obt Servt. Silas Dinsmore

J. R. Reid

Mobile, Ala. Sept. 2. 1837. To the Hon. Secretary of State, Dear Sir, I have been retained as the Attorney of a widow lady resident in this City for the purpose of ascertaining whether the legal representatives of a claimants deceased citizen of Texas, they residing in the United States are entitled to any for said right share or inheritance in the real estate of such decedent, situate in in Texas Texas. A short time before your revolution a citizen of the United States left his country and took up his residence near Velasco in your Republic. After having there made purchases of land to a large amount and after said land had been surveyed and registered according to the provisions of the law then in operation he returned to the United States for his family intimating to become a permanent resident of Texas. While in this City and making the arrangements for a speedy removal he took sick with fever and died. Under the laws of Nations his legal representatives are entitled to his property; he having been a citizen of your Republic at the time of his decease, and his title to the property in question having been consummated before the change of Flags. As I do not wish to incur the expenses of a voyage to Texas unfurnished with the knowledge essential to my mission, I will be very much obliged to you to inform me what are your laws as bearing on this question. Please favor me with a reply at an early date. Your obt. Servt. John R. Reed.

P. Usher Election

To the Hon. Sec. of State, Sir, At an election held on Monday the fourth day of September A. D. one thousand eight hundred and thirty seven in the County of Jackson on closing the Returns of Jackson Polls, and counting the votes it appears that in

County

House of Representatives

Geo. Sutherland had seventy eight votes (78) Elijah Stapp sixteen (16) S. A. White fourteen

Justices of the Peace

Francis M. White had eighty three votes (83). Chas. Andrews seventy one votes (71) Felix R. Ernest, Forty. (40) James Hern four

Constable, George Menefee had twenty one votes. (21)

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth day of September 1837.

Patrick Ellis
Chief Justice of Jackson Co.

A. B. Patrick
Return of
Election for
Gonzales Co.

A list of the names of the voters for a Member to represent the County of Gonzales at an Election holden at Houston on the fourth September 1837 in accordance with a proclamation of the President.

Candidates for Representive		
A. D. Clements received	Eleven	(11)
Andrew Pontin "	Five	(5)
Ezekiel Williams "	None	—

Names of Voters, B. D. McClure. Jas. B. Patrick. Chris. C. Williams Saml. McCoy. Chas. Mason. John Fuller. John M. Ashby.

In pursuance of the above order &c. at an election held at the house of Jas. B. Patrick in the Town of Houston for a Representative for the County of Gonzales, I hereby certify that the votes were as follows. A. D. Clement Two. Andrew Pontin five and Ezekiel Williams none.

Attest Chas. Mason
Saml. McCoy

J. B. Patrick Act. Judge

* [illegible]

A. Briscoe
Ordering an
election to
be holden
for Gonzales
County.

Republic of Texas, Harrisburg County

Having been recently informed that there are a number of citizens of Gonzales sojourning within the limits of this County who have been compelled to leave their homes by the enemies of the country, I hereby require you to hold an election at the Town of Houston on Monday the fourth day of September for the Citizens of Gonzales County to choose a Representative to Congress for their County.

Harrisburg Sep. 2. 1837.

A. Briscoe. C. J.

Jas. Patrick Esq.

N. B. You will make your returns to me at Houston before 4 oclock P. M. on Wednesday after the election.

A. B.

J. S. Singleton
Certificate of
Election
for Gonzales
Co.

We the undersigned Judges of an election began and held at Lynchburg in the County of Harrisburg for a Representative for the County of Gonzales in compliance of an act, do certify that the within is a correct return of the votes given at this precinct.

Lynchburg Sep 4. 1837.

Candidates.	Clements	Pontin.
Votes names.	David Hannah. John Henry. Jos. Henry. Thos. S. Mitchell. Andrew Seawell. Wm. Rainey. John Neil.	

The above vote given for the County

of Gonzales at the precinct of Lynchburg and County of Harrisburg is correct.
Given under my hand Sep. 4. 1837. John Taylor. S. Singleton Judges.
Sworn and subscribed to before me the day and date above written.
Jas. Megahy J.P.

A. Briscoe. relative to Election in Gonzales County.

Houston, Sep. 6. 1837. Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Sir, The enclosed are returns of elections purporting to be by citizens of the depopulated Counties that one addressed to me was held pursuant to an order issued by me at the request of the Hon. B. D. McClure, Chief Justice of Gonzales County to James P. Patrick, whom I know to be a citizen of Gonzales County, as I have no faith in these Votes or Returns I enclose them to you without breaking the Seal. The returns addressed to B. D. McClure and yourself I know nothing of. Your most Obt Servt. A. Briscoe, C. J. of Harrisburg Co.

S. D. Gervais Election

Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec. of State, Sir, At an election held in the County of Matagorda in conformity with the proclamation of the President, and of the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Texas Returns on the 4th. day of September 1837 for one Representative to the General Congress of Matagorda County to Represent the said County.

Town and Precinct of Matagorda.	Thos. J. Hardiman	20.	Silas Densmore	16.	C. R. Whitman	19.
" " Trespalacios	"	2.	"	3.	"	"
" " Pass Cavallo	"	11	"	4		3
" " R. Williams	"	4	"	"		1
" " T. Barnes	"	5	"	"		1
" " T. McCoy	"	"	"	4		12
" " T. Huff	"	4	"	9		3
" " Peter Demoss	"	9	"	7		4.
		56.		43		43

Total votes polled 142.

I Sinclair D. Gervais Chief Justice of the said County of Matagorda do hereby certify the above to be a correct statement of the votes polled at the different Precincts of said County and returned to me and now forwarded to the honorable Secretary of State agreeably to Law. Given under my hand this fourth day of September at the Town of Matagorda A. D. 1837. and of the Independence of said Republic the second. Sinclair D. Gervais C. J.

M. Parker Chief Justice Resignation

Milam, Sabine County, His Excellency Sam. Houston, Dear Sir, For divers causes and reasons I think proper to transmit to you my resignation as Chief Justice in the County above mentioned this September 4th. A. D. 1837. M. Parker

Election Returns Nacogdoches Co.

Statement of an Election held Sep. 4. 1837 at the different precincts in the County of Nacogdoches for Senator and for Nacog. Representatives to Congress, according to Returns on file.

When and where held	Candidates for Representatives					Candidates for Senator.			
	T. J. Rusk.	K. H. Douglas	W. Burton	H. Edwards	F. A. Nixon	T. J. Rusk	R. Sparks	H. Edwards	J. W. Burton
Sep. 4. 1837. Nacogdoches	305	194	1	1	112	1	78	113	120.
" " Value	5	5	"	"	"	"	3	"	3
" " Williams'	18	8	"	"	10	"	10	6	2
" " Costly's	27	25	"	"	3	"	28	"	1
" " Forks of Road	27	1			28	"	1	"	23
" " Tuscose	90	36			53		15	52	20
	473	270	1	1	206	1	141	171	169

Note. [illegible]

D. P. Coit Election Sec. of State Nacog. Co. Texas

Liberty Sep. 4. 1837. Hon. R. A. Irion

Sir According to the Returns made to me by the Judges appointed to hold an election for the citizens of Gonzales temporarily in the County of Liberty for the election of a Representative, Four Votes were given for Joseph D. Clements.

I Say Respectfully Your ob Serv.t

Dan.l P. Coit C. J.

Liberty Co.

Election Returns for Senator & Representative for the Co.s of Refugio & San Patricio Held on Houston

List of the names of votes for one Senator for the Counties of Goliad, Refugio, and San Patricio and Representatives for the Counties of San Patricio and Refugio.

Votes. Elkanah Brush of the County of Refugio.
Goliad 3 { Benjamin Odlum " " " San Patricio.
John Bowen " " " Refugio

For Senate	For Representatives
John Dunn.	1. Elkanah Brush for the County of Refugio
	1. John Turner " " " San Patricio.

Republic of Texas, Harrisburg County, The undersigned Judges and Clerks of an election held in the City of Houston on the 4th. Sep. 1837 for a Member to represent the County of Harrisburg in the next Congress, pursuant to the proclamation of the President of the Republic, and the order of the Chief Justice of the County Court of this County do hereby certify that the abovenamed votes were offered and received by the Judges the Chief Justice aforesaid having failed to appoint persons specially to receive the same according to said proclamation, and that John Dunn received three votes for Senator to Represent the Counties of Refugio, San Patricio and Goliad; that Elkannah Brush received one vote as Representative for the County of Refugio and John Turner received one vote as Representative for the County of San Patricio.

Geo. [illegible]

under our hands and seals this 4th. Sep. 1837. President, Thos. Jno. Wood. Judges Seman Kelley, E. T. Summers, M. Forest. Clerk J. W. Moore.

Jefferson Co.
recommending M. P. Clark for Chief Justice

To His Excellency Gen. Sam. Houston, We the undersigned Citizens of the County of Jefferson respectfully represent that the Office of Chief Justice of said County has become vacant by the removal of our late Justice - Chief Justice Chichester Chaplin out of the County. We therefore respectfully but earnestly request that your Excellency would nominate M. P. Clark a gentleman in whom we can confide and a man we believe every way well qualified to discharge the duties of that office. Jefferson Sep. 6. 1837.

D. P. Coit
Election Rtns

Liberty Sep. 7. 1837. Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Sir, In my return of the Justices elected for the County of Liberty I omitted the name of Jesse B. Irwin.

The Justices of the Peace act all much in want of the Laws of the Judiciary of the Republic of Texas passed Dec. 1836.

Very Respectfully &c. Wm. P. Coit. C. J.

Jno Mott
Election Returns.

Jasper July 25. 1837. Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Dear Sir, Agreeable to a law of the late Session of Congress we proceeded to hold an election for County Officers the result of which was,

Sheriff.	Coroner	District Clerk	Clerk of the County Court
Jas. Hoggatt	Henry Stagner	Wm. Moyes.	Angelus F. Parker.

I certify the above to be the true result of an election held in the County of Jasper on the 15th. inst. Given under my hand the date above written. Jos. Mott. C. J.

Geo. B. McKinistry
Election Returns

Brazoria Sep. 11. 1837. Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Sir, In pursuance of a proclamation of His Excellency Sam. Houston President of the Republic of Texas, directing the Chief Justices of the several counties to hold an election on the 4th. inst. for Representatives in Congress I do hereby certify that the following is a correct return of the election held in this County.

Anson Jones	received	152 votes.
Patrick C. Jack	"	142 "
Wm. J. Russell	"	137 "
F. A. Sawyer	"	113 "
M. C. Patton	"	35 "
Elisha Fluck	"	1 "
Wm. H. Jack	"	1 "
John A. Wharton	"	3 "

Very Respectfully, Your Obt. Servt. Geo. B. McKinistry C. J.

C. S. Taylor
Election Returns

Nacogdoches Sep. 17. 1837. To the Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State. Sir with this I forward you the original Returns of the elections held on the fourth inst for one Senator and two Representatives for Congress a transcript of which I have forwarded to each House; I also beg leave to represent that Williams' Settlement, and the Saline, are not regular or proper Districts, but being so remote from the usual places of holding elections it has long been customary to allow them that privilege, however since the election those comprising Williams' Settlement have received an order to organize as a Militia District.

Most Respectfully your obt. Sevt.
Chas. S. Taylor C. J.

See page 24. 28. 29. 88. 90.

Geo. B. McKinstry
Election Returns for Senator

Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Sir
At an election held in the County of Brazoria on the 20th. inst. by order of his Excellency Sam. Houston President of the Republic of Texas, for a Senator in Congress to fill the vacancy occassioned by the resignation of the Hon. W. G. Hill the returns are as follows.

William H. Wharton,	received	146 votes
Wm. H. Jack	"	117 "
Robt. Mills	"	1 "

which I do hereby certify to be a true and correct return of said election. Given under my hand this 25th. day of Sep. 1837.

Geo. B. McKinstry C. J.

J. McHenry
Resignation of Chief Justice

County of Victoria Sep. 20. 1837 To the Hon. Sec. of State, Sir By this communication I tender through you to his Honor to his excellency the President my resignation of the office of Chief Justice of the County of Victoria. I am compelled to do so from the fact that the law makes it the duty of each Chief Justice to keep his office at the Capital of the County, and my residence is some 25 or 30 miles distant; it would be ruinous to me to be compelled to hold said office as it is incompatible with my situation to move to the seat of Justice.

Please communicate the above to His Excellency and oblige your obt Sevt.
John McHenry.

Boundary of Victoria County.

Commencing at the mouth of the La Bacca River; thence up said River to one League perpendicular above the San Antonio Road or La Bahia Road; thence in a southerly direction and parallel to said Road so as to strike the Guadaloupe River two Leagues above the pass de Anastacio on said River; thence in a southerly direction to the head of the Coleto Creek, down said Creek to its confluence with the Guadaloupe River and down the same to its mouth; thence running down the Espirito Santo Bay to the Gulf at the west end of Matagorda Island thence along the Gulf including said Island to the pass de Cavallo thence through the Matagorda and La Bacca Bays to the place

of beginning. See Sundry Decrees of the State of Coahuila and Texas. Copies of which are at the Land Office in Victoria and Bexar, and the originals at Montclova.

Topography.

That part bordering on the Coast and for 25 miles up is a level Prairie country, to the North of which the Lands become somewhat undulating and covered with heavy Timber, Live Oak, Post Oak, Hickory, Pecan, Hackberry, Mulberry, on the Rivers, Wild Peach or Sorrell, Elm, Sycamore, Cottonwood, Buckeye, Lignum Vitae, Como, Brazil Ash & Ebony. Soil and productions a great variety; that on the Guadaloupe and La Bacca, and, many of the small Streams is equal to any in Texas. Experienced Sugar Planters has given it as their opinion that the Prairie Lands of the Rivers Guadaloupe and La Bacca including the Coast will produce Sugar equal to any known. Cotton Corn Oats, Potatoes and all kinds of Vegetables have been produced in abundance.

Streams. The Guadaloupe and La Bacca are the principal, the former will afford good Steam Boat Navigation to Gonzales. The La Bacca to the head of tide water and is susceptable of improvement some distance further up. The Garcete is a beautiful Stream and enters the Bay about 9 miles west of the La Bacca, is navigable for Boats 12 miles, The northern part of the County has many small Streams and many fine Springs of the best water.

Population. This County now comprises the two Colonies granted to Martin De Leon, one for 41 families the other for 150. He and his successor had completed the contracts as to the reception of the whole number of families on the 28th. of April 1835. But the country being depopulated by the War, but few of its original inhabitants are now occupying their homes.

Towns. There are but three Towns as yet in said County viz. Victoria, Dimitts Point, and Linns Landing. The first is the Capital of the County and was laid out by the Empresario and Martin De Leon in the year 1824 in accordance with a decree of the Supreme Gov^t. and is situated on the Guadaloupe River and in the centre of a four league tract appropriated by Gov^t for the use of the Town. This is a most delightful situation. Dimitts point is located on the La Bacca six miles from its entrance in the Bay on a fine elevation and beautiful site, is a fine commanding situation for commercial transactions. From this point a Rail Road to the Town of Mexia (distance about 100 ms.) on the Colorado River will bring all the product of that fine country to be shipped from the La Bacca to New Orleans and Europe. Linns Landing is also an elegant and well situated place, being on the west bank of the La Bacca Bay and opposite to Boyes Point at the head of Schooner navigation where they can discharge their Cargoes at only 300 yds distance from the shore, with many more advantages, near to it is excellent fresh water which never fails during the severest droughts, it has recently been laid out for a Town. It has a Warehouse but no inhabitants.

Curiosities. Numerous bones of immense size have been found on the high prairie and head of the La Bacca supposed to be bones of the Mammoth, and also bones of the human species have been found on the Coleto, the thigh bones of which measured over

yard in length.

Petrifactions. Many such as limbs of Trees, Logs &c. which are now as hard as flint.

John McFenny

Note. The original grant to Dewitt was bounded on the South by "the Ten Lateral Leagues from the Coast". After his Colony was closed by the Commissioner in 1831 "the lap claim" so called was annexed to the Municipality of Victoria it being the boundary of De Leon's second grant.

By a decree of March 18. 1834 creating three Departments in Texas, divided this Municipality between the Departments of Bexar and Brazos. In 1835 Congress rectified the error by a decree dated 17th of May of that year reannexing "the lap claim" to the Department of Bexar.

D. Toby & Bro)
relative to
dispatches
for J.P.
Henderson

New Orleans Sep. 21. 1837. To the Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec. of State. Sir Your favor of 23rd ultimo came to hand a few days since enclosing a letter for the hon. J. P. Henderson under cover to the Barings London. As there would not be an opportunity from here for some time we forwarded it by the express Mail to New York where it will arrive in seven days and leave in the first packet from there for London. Respectfully your obt Serv.t

T. Toby and Bro.

A. Brigham)
relative to
appropriation
for Dept.

Treasury Department, Houston Sep. 21. 1837. Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Sir It being desirable that this Department should be informed of the amount necessary to be appropriated by Congress to meet the expenses of the Government for the year next ensuing. You will be pleased so far as your Department is concerned to furnish such data as will enable me to submit the subject to His Exc.y the President to the end that the desired appropriation be made.

Respectfully your obt Serv.t A. Brigham Act.g Sec. Treas.y

E. Andrews
relative to
passport
for Mr. B.
Jaques

Brazoria, Sep. 22. 1837. Hon. Sec. of State, Dear Sir I will feel much obliged by your taking out and forwarding to me for return of Mail a passport for Mr William B. Jaques who has lately become a citizen of this Republic at Brazoria and is going to the United States for the purpose of bringing over his family.

For the expenses that this may occasion we can settle when we meet. I remain dear Sir yours very truly,

Edmund Andrews for Edw.d Purcell

Mr A. Hodge
recommending
A. C. Bird
to the office
of Chief
Justice

Beaumont Sep. 24. 1837. Dear Sir It appears to be the general wish of the citizens of this County that John C. Bird Esq. should be appointed as Chief Justice, and he has expressed his willingness to serve in that capacity. You would therefore confer a Justice favor on me as well I think on the principal part of the citizens of

this County, to use your influence in his behalf. The principal part of the people with whom I am conversed on the subject coincide with me in my opinion. I have understood that Mr John Stevenson Sen. is striving to obtain the office. You I believe are acquainted with both the aspirants, choose for yourself and I am satisfied. Yours Very Respectfully Wm. H. Hodges.

P.S. I have served as Constable under J. C. Reid while he was Alcalde at Anahuac and always found him to act with the strictest honor integrity and firmness.

W. H. H.

The above letter addressed to J. H. Cocke Esq, Senator, [illegible]

Election Returns for Sheriff

Shelby County, Sep. 25. 1837. We the Judges and Clerks duly appointed and sworn to hold an election for a Sheriff to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Lewis Watkins formed Sheriff and upon comparing the votes taken upon the occasion it appears that William Watson was duly and constitutionally elected Sheriff of and for the County of Shelby and Republic of Texas, began and held on the 25th day of Sep. A.D. 1837 by a majority of 22 votes over his opponent.

We do certify that the above is a true copy of the returns made to us as judges and Clerks.

Judges. { Thos. Kelly / Lewis Watkins

Clerks. { John Stewart / John Turner.

Wm C. V. Dashiel from J. C. Reid for Chief Justice

Beaumont, Sep. 25. 1837. Dear Sir, I am happy to inform you that John C. Reed Esq. has consented to serve as Chief Justice in our County Court, should he be appointed, and I am authorized to say that such an appointment would meet with the wishes of a majority of the citizens of the County as he is decidedly more competent to discharge the duties incumbent upon such an Officer than any other candidate now before you. Any aid you can possibly render him in forwarding his views will be deemed a particular kindness by him and meet the views of your friend and obt. Servt.

Wm. C. V. Dashiel.

Mr. B. Jos. P. Pulsifer has declined.

The following are the names of persons who wish to be annexed to the above.

Lepoy Sidney. John Clark. Robt. Burrell. Geo. Washn. Lewis. M. J. Break E. Higden.

R. A. Crom from J. C. Reid for Chief Justice

Beaumont Sep. 25. 1837 Dear Sir. Allow me to say to you that John C. Read Esq has consented to serve as Chief Justice for the County of Jefferson if appointed. I am of opinion that the appointment will meet the entire approbation of the people for these very good reasons, Squire Read is very well qualified to fill that office, secondly if a

is any man in the country who deserves your suffrage it is Squire Read for this very good reason, from the begeinning of the present struggle of country he has been in the service, until his health is so impaired that he is unable to make a support by common labor you will confer a great favor on your humble servant and many of your fellow citizens by adhering to the above, I am yours with respect R. A. Dorn.

{ [illegible] }

J. Drake recommending R. Read for Chief Justice.

Beaumont, Sep. 25. 1837. Dear Sir, Mr Read informs me that he has a desire to be appointed Chief Justice of this County, and for my part I know of no other man as well qualified to fill that important office. Anything you will do in his favor to forward his appointment will meet with my entire approbation.

{ Address as above. See others on file. } Yours Respectfully Jas. Drake.

A. Robertson relative to the boundary line between the W. S. & Texas

Senate Chamber Sep. 27. 1837. Resolved, That the Secretary of State be and is hereby instructed to furnish the Committee on Foreign Relations with all the correspondence between this Government and the United States, relating to the boundary line between the two, and also with such of the correspondence of our Minister or Ministers, near the Government of the United States as could be disclosed without endangering the Public interest.

Arthur Robertson Sec. Sen.

A. Robertson making information on Indian affairs

Senate Chamber Sep. 30. 1837 Resolved, By the Senate that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to call on His Excellency the President of this Republic and the Sec. of State for all papers and information in the possession of either calculated to enlighten the Committee on the subjects falling under their consideration. Copy from Journal.

Arthur Robertson. Sec. Sen.

M. Parker resignation as Judge of Court

Sabine County, Sep. 30. 1837. His Excellency Sam. Houston, Sir, A combination of circumstances forbid my holding the appointment of Judge of the County Court in and for said County, which your Excellency was pleased to forward me. You will therefore be pleased to accept this as my resignation.

With sentiments of high esteem your humble Servant M. Parker.

Wm Gorham relative to Bond of Sec. of State, & Clerk

Mina Sep. 30. 1837. To the Hon. Sec. of State, Sir, Agreeably to the Judiciary Law, Section 13th. passed Dec. 1836, I have the honor to transmit Greenleaf Fulk's Bond as Clk. of the District Court of the County of Mina which Bond is on record in my office, Resp. your ob. Wm. Gorham C. C. C. Mina.

Read,

House Representatives Octo 1. 1839. Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be instructed to call on the Secretary of State for 35 Copies of the Acts of the last Congress for the use of this House. Adopted.

John W. Shreve. Chf. Clk. H. R.

P. H. Grayson

Louisville Ky. Octo 1. 1839.

Comm.ns to Hon. R. A. Irion Sec.y of State, U. States — Dear Sir After many delays and through various mishaps I got to this place a few days ago. Before leaving Galveston I had a slight attack of intermitting fever, and from exposure afterwards was laid up for a week or two at different points with recurred visitations of that agreeable malady. I am now however gaining strength pretty rapidly, and shall go on eastward as soon as I have made some ascertainments to my thorough satisfaction here, with respect to the objects of our great solicitude. I am happy to say that the administration editor of this place (who greatly influences the politics of the west with respect to his party) is decidedly in favor of annexation, and has assured me that he is confident of the views of the President being in accordance with his own. He speaks with great confidence as to the result, and will I am sure in every way advocate the measure, what he is already beginning to do in a very judicious manner. But there is one person here, a member elect of the Legislature of this state, a man of very high abilities, who has expressed to me some doubt of the policy of the measure of annexation on the part of this Government, although he admits the probability it will take place. As I know the Kentucky Legislature will express some opinion on the subject at its next session, I am very anxious to impress upon the gentleman in question every argument and consideration I can think of to induce him to take a stand at once decidedly favorable to our views. He is not at all decidedly opposed, but seems to hesitate a little only for the want of a clear conviction of the advantage to result to the United States from the proposed measure. You may be sure I have not failed to urge upon his attention views what I think had not before occurred to him on the subject which if I mistake not have not been without their effect. Much let me observe depends upon the expression of the Legislature of this State, because that expression will influence Mr Clay who in conjunction with Mr Calhoun, Preston &c in the Senate, can undoubtedly carry the measure if, as I now do not doubt Mr Van Buren be earnestly in favor of it. I shall be in Washington in a few days from which point I shall be able to write you more understandingly on the subject. Nothing will be attempted in Congress however I can say to you, until the regular session; the present one not being likely to last longer than the 15th. October or thereabouts.

I am all in the dark about Texas affairs ever since I left, except what I see by the papers "the Invincible has been lost on the Bar of Galveston; that the Indians have committed some new outrages, and that Genl. A. Johnston has made his escape from Matamoras. I have an unspeakable solicitude to hear the proceedings of the called Congress if indeed there was a quorum which I was inclined to doubt. I see Genl. Johnson every day here and am happy to say that his health is rapidly improving and that it is his intention to return to Texas about the

first of November. As I write now merely to let you know where I am & and give you the little glimpse I have gathered as to our prospects so far I shall say no more, except to request you will present my best regard to the President who I hope enjoying good health. And for yourself

Very truly your Friend P.W. Grayson

A.G. Parker relative to the Bond of Dist. Clk.

Jasper. Octo. 11. 1837 Hon. Secretary of State, Sir Enclosed you will find the Bond of the District Clerk of Jasper County. We have not received a Copy of the Judiciary, either in this Office or the District Clerks Office. There are two or three Justices of the Peace in this County that have not received the Law. We should be glad to receive the Laws, there is a Mail route now established from San Augustine to Jasper.

A. G. Parker C. C. C. J.

Relative to Gov.t Offices Salaries &c

House of Representatives, Octo 2. 1837

Resolved, That a Committee of Five Members be appointed to ascertain from the different heads of Department the number of officers, Civil and Military now in the pay and employment of the Government with their pay and salaries, and to report the propriety of reducing the number of such officers

Adopted.

John M. Shreve C. C. H. R.

Requiring Copies of Laws up to Octo.

House of Representatives, Octo 6. 1837

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be required to furnish to the Clerk of this House forthwith a Copy of all the Laws and Joint Resolutions which have been heretofore passed by the Congress of this Republic together with Copies of the ordinances passed by the Convention that framed the Convention. Adopted.

John M. Shreve C. H. R.

Relative to Gov.t Offices Salaries, Stationed &c.

Senate Chamber. Octo 7. 1837.

Resolved by the Senate of the Republic of Texas, That the President be requested to furnish the Senate with a complete list of all officers and Agents both Civil and Military of the Government of this Republic now under pay; together with the amount of pay respectively received; at what point stationed, and if in his opinion a portion of them cannot be dispensed with. (Copied from Journal) Arthur Robertson Sec. Sen.

Boundary line between U.S. and Texas

House of Representatives Oct. 1837

Resolved that the Secretary of State be requested to furnish this House with any information which may be in his possession relative to the boundary line between this and the United States Government and all correspondence between the two Governments. Adopted.

Francis R. Lubbock Act. J. C. H. R.

Wm. H. Wharton

Houston Octo 11. 1837. To His Excellency Sam Houston, Dear Sir, Judge Waller has come over among other things, to see about the Judge appointment of Custom House Collector at Velasco, I take pleasure in bearing Waller testimony to what I have said verbally to you on several occasions, which is that if the the office office of Collector at Velasco is vacant, a more capable individual to fill it, or of Collector one more substantially identified with the country, or more acceptable to the people, at Velasco at large could not be found than Judge Waller. His appointment would also be to me individually truly gratifying. He wishes an answer as soon as convenient, for upon that will depend a sale of his plantation and negroes, or his retention of them. With great respect I have the honor to be yours &c

Wm. H. Wharton

Triplicate of Aug. 29.

J. P. Levy.

New York Octo. 12. 1837. His Excellency Sam. Houston, Sir, I have the honor to call your excellency's attention to the course pursued relative to the Brig Belvidere by the authorities of Texas in Velasco by which I have sustained the loss of my Brig and Cargo, no part of which has been insured. The Brig Belvidere of 181 Tons, Capt. Henry Peterson and 57 Passengers, sailed from this port with a Cargo of Brick, Lumber Provision, Cordage &c. On her arrival at Velasco the papers belonging to the Brig were taken possession of by the authorities and forcibly detained, and the Captain imprisoned without any charge being brought against him. While thus detained without cause and controversy to the avowed promises and declarations of the Govt. of Texas in relation to the Commerce of this Country the Brig lost one of her Anchors, and lay exposed in a dangerous Roadstead, and finally parted her other Cable, and went on shore and was totally lost. There can be no doubt of the fact that had the Captain been permitted to an entry and had commenced discharging his Cargo immediately on his arrival or left the Port, the vessel and Cargo would have been saved and a profitable return would have been made, the acts of the Govt. having caused the loss of the Brig and Cargo, I have to look to the Republic of Texas for their value, amounting to as per documents (which will be transmitted) to upwards of $9.000. and have notified the Hon. Sec. of State at Washington of the claim and its particulars. I need not assure your Exc. that upon the good faith and correct conduct of the Authorities of Texas will depend the extent and character of the Trade carried on between the United States and that Country.

Very Respectfully your Exc.ys. obt. Servt. Jonas P. Levy.

P.S. I have sent two Copies of the above via New Orleans and humbly await your answer. J. P. L.

J. P. Cole, Election Return -

Washington County, Octo. 12. 1837. I do hereby certify that at an election held in the Town of Washington for Justices of the Peace for the precincts of Washington to fill the vacancies of E. Roundy and Stephen R. Roberts resigned, that J. W. Smith and Samuel Lusk were duly and constitutionally elected to fill the vacancies, on the 3rd day of Octo. 1837.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my private seal this 12th day of Octo. 1837.

Jno. P. Coles. C. J.

J. Woodward.

relative to Schooner Caroline, & Consul, duties —

New York Octo 13. 1837. To the Hon. R. A. Irion, Secretary of State. Dear Sir This morning the Schooned Caroline, Oakly owned, left this port for Velasco, without having applied to the Consul for the necessary endorsement of his papers, contrary to the advertisement which I have officially published. Such a practice not only injures the nationality of our Republic, so important for us now to assert, but tends to defraud us of our revenue by smuggling, evasions of the slave statute and other port corruptions. The looseness and corruption of the Mexican trade is proverbial and it has been an object with me to place our trade upon the same respectable footing with England, or any standard commercial country. In the absence of any statute or instructions, I have adopted the practice of the British Consulates, of which I have duly advised his Excellency the President of the Republic, with my reasons for this course, and to which I beg to refer. It now becomes desirable that a statute should be passed on this subject, or that I should receive the instructions of the Secretary of State. The latter will be sufficient. I think that the Consul should endorse the manifest, List of passengers, List of Crew, Bill of health, and Clearance, with such other papers as may be usual with the Consulates of Great Britain, and adapted to our trade, which our Consul from time to time may deem beneficial to the Trade. I need not remark that the passport is deemed of great use and value, in England, here and the other European countries. Because it not only keeps up a proper system of observation and safety in the general intercourse by securing character, preventing espionage &c. but it answers many valuable purposes in the various and shifting occurrences of commerce, and Port regulations. The Govt. of England passed a statute under penalty requiring a passport at all times for any person entering England whether subject or foreign, which the British Consul here some time published. I have therefore adopted the passport system as important to our Republic, with any other document which the exigence of the case may require. As to all Deeds Records, Powers &c connected with Texas, I of course authenticate them, as ~~this~~ this has always been the duty of Consuls. And as to all other points I exercise sound discretion. If it should appear to you expedient or fit, I respectfully submit the propriety of your sending me as soon as possible your official instruction on these heads, couched either in the phrase which this letter adopts or any other which may appear to you more acceptable. You are well aware that a proper system on all the above points serves by sea and Land to keep up the nationality of our Republic, and it is on this account, and this alone that I have taken the liberty of inviting your attention to it, for altho' the business now is of little account the system is not less valuable, and will be important to us in the prospective increase of our commerce. The revenue we shall secure by a strict system of checks will be invaluable. You will also see the propriety of instructing the Collectors, boarding Officers &c on these points as soon as possible.

Your favor of the 29th. June was the first and last communication I have as yet received from any part of the Government. With the best aspirations for the welfare of our common Country I beg you to accept the assurances of my highest respect and esteem.

John. Woodward.

G. W. Grayson

Washington Octo 21. 1837. His Excellency
Comm^r Sam. Houston, Dear Genl Manifold mishaps and untoward circumstances pre=
to U.S. vented my reaching this place before the adjournment of the called session. I got
relain to here on the 18th. Congress adjourned on the 16th. This is a matter I had no par=
Annexation ticular reasons to regret, however, as before my arrival I had learned that there was
no intention to bring up the subject of Texas, and the question of its annexation
until the regular Session, which commences you know on the first Monday
in December. By the communications of Gen. Hunt, you will have seen
the present attitude of the question with the Cabinet of this Government, which
you will observe is for the present acting with a sort of diplomatic caution
out of reference to the prejudices of the North. Nevertheless their real solicitude
for the annexation cannot I think be questioned. I have called on several
Members of the Cabinet, among others Mr Poinsett, whose warmth on the subject
seems equal to our own, but was met by him with the Cabinet suggestions
of a little delay for the present; on reply to which the appropriate suggestion
as to the hazard of any postponement were made by Gen. Hunt who accompanied
me. In the event of the administration holding back in this equivocal
manner, it is suggested as more than probable that Mr Clay will take the lead
in favor of the measure joined by Preston &c. From all I can learn of Mr Clay
in respect to the question I cannot doubt that he is with us, and if so by the
views he can present, there is little doubt of his being able to conciliate so much of
the North as added to the South will carry the measure. Upon the whole however
according to the views I take of the subject I look upon the result as exceedingly doubt=
ful, I have deemed it due to truth and candour to say to you, notwithstanding
my great solicitude on the subject. But there is a mighty feeling to
burst forth, a sort of volcanic explosion to take place in Congress on the
question at all events, and as in the Natural World such convulsions sometimes
sink old Continents and throw up New Ones, by analogy we may suppose that
political convulsions may destroy old opinions and parties and bring up others
in their Stead which are to change the whole face of affairs.

I have written this letter rather to let
you see I am living, and to express to you my respects, than as deeming any=
thing I have as yet to communicate of any material importance. In the
course of a short time however I shall be able I hope to say something more
conclusive as to future events that may be expected by us from the actions of
this Government, which is to decide our fall one way or the other. Every pains
shall cheerfully be taken by me to learn every thing and influence every one in my
power; of all which I will feel it my duty to give you the earliest information.

It gives me great pleasure to assure you
of the zeal and earnestness with which Gen. Hunt is labouring to effect the wishes
and instructions of his Government. You will see by the correspondence
he sends to the Department of State, that even the old ~~zealot~~ J. Q. Adams
is committed to the acquisition of Texas. To Dr. Irion, Smith &c. be pleased
to present my most cordial salutations & for yourself believe me very
faithfully Yours &c.

P. W. Grayson

Relative to the Vacancy of Hon. T. J. Green in Congress

Senate Chamber, Octo. 21. 1837. Resolved by the Senate of the Republic of Texas, That the seat of the Hon. T. J. Green Senator elect from the County of Bexar, be and the same is hereby declared vacant, and that his Excellency the President be requested forthwith to issue his proclamation causing said vacancy to be filled.

Arthur Robertson Sec. of Senate

This resolution has been referred to his Excellency, and he now has the honor to transmit it to the Secretary of State for the appropriate action.

Mounted Riflemen

Auditors Office, Houston Octo. 23. 1837. The Hon. Sec.y of State, You send me the Copy of an Act passed. a Columbia to raise a Corps of mounted Riflemen for the protection of the Frontier, also a resolution requiring or authorizing the Auditor of public accounts to audit the account of J. Braint and Sebastian Francois. And oblige your Obt. Servt. J. W. Moody 1st Aud.

J. Forsyth relative to the appointment of Mr. Alex Sabranche Chargé de Affairs to Texas

Washington, Department of State July 21. 1837. To His Excellency The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Texas. Sir, The President of the United States, having thought proper to appoint Mr Alex Sabranche their Chargé de Affairs, near the government of the Republic of Texas, I have the honor of announcing the same to your Excellency, and of praying you to give credence to whatever he shall say to you on my part. He knows the concern our Republic takes in the interest and prosperity of Texas, our strong desire to cultivate its friendship and to deserve it by all the good offices which may be in our power. He knows also my zeal to promote these by whatever may depend upon my ministry. I have no doubt that Mr Sabranche will so conduct himself as to meet your confidence, and I avail myself with pleasure of this occasion of offering to you assurances of my high and distinguished consideration.

John Forsyth.

A. Woodward relative to the Schooner Fanny, & Consular rules & regulations

New York 27. Octo. 1837. The Hon. R. A. Irion, Dear Sir, Since I wrote to you, another vessel owned by the house of Hurlbut & Co. in this City called I think the Fanny, has left this port for Texas, without getting the certification of her papers by the Consul. Others I think from the example of this, and the first vessel I referred to in my last letter are inclined to do the same, under the impression that they can act in our trade as they please at present with impunity, as we have no laws on this subject. Indeed I have come to the conclusion, that unless a strict statute be passed on this subject that we shall be in danger of falling into the looseness and corruption of the Mexican and South American ports generally, where the greater proportion of their revenue is lost by the non observance of the Port checks of the trade, and also by the corruption and sinister conduct of the Officers connected with the revenue. The boarding Officers and collectors should be required under proper penalties to exact from every vessel a strict compliance with the forms and

and checks required at the home and outward ports, and particularly the authentications of our own Consuls, who are the only business Officers upon whom we can rely abroad for the protection of the trade. If the first offences which happen in the trade were promptly reported and prosecuted, and the system of strict observation constantly kept up, our treasury would soon feel the advantage of it. I am not disposed to see those who have been worse than callous to our Republic, when in difficulties, reap anything more from us than the fair advantages of Trade much less speculate upon our revenue. They are very pliansable and sinister in coming to these things, and in endeavouring to remove obstacles, through their friends and others. But my acquaintance in the City, and other considerations, give me easy opportunities of detecting them and keeping our Trade steady and productive, provided I am aided by strict and explicit Statutes, and instructions. The trade will take its fashion and set from this port, and the other ports within my Consulship and it is my fixed determination as far as I am concerned, to place our Republic on a parallel with the first commercial countries. Because I know by this course it will soon rival them and also command their respect, and then when the ports essentially shift to the southward which in time will be the case, and our operations directed mainly to Europe our character will be fixed, and by distinguishing us from the ports South of us, will give to our trade many exclusive advantages. The fees of these port checks which must be kept up to preserve our Nationality and prevent offence to other foreign officials and which are no kind of object at present, are mere specks compared with the Cargo, and the owners do not in fact mind them, they urge them merely to get rid of the acts required. I mention these small points so that you may be apprised of them.

I have offered the Vice Consulships to Mr Williams of Baltimore, and Mr Conde Raguet of Philadelphia, but both these gentlemen decline for reasons which they assign in a manner most respectful towards our Republic. I shall defer making other appointments until we hear something decisive from our Minister in England. Then I think greater inducements will be held out to the acceptance of such a trust by competent Citizens. At present the Office would be a considerable expense to them, and we can hardly expect them to make the sacrifice. A sacrifice at this time can only be expected from those specially attached to the Republic. A Law should I think should be passed requiring exactly what is required by the United States Government, and that of England, That the Consul should certify every Invoice, special and general, under the forms observed by those countries, as well as what I mentioned before, as adopted by England and the United States. to wit, the Manifest, Clearance, List of Crew, Report of passengers, Bill of Health, and such other papers as are adopted in the Trade of England or the United States; and such further papers or acts as the Consul General should from time to time consider best adapted to the Statutes and trade of Texas. A clause should be inserted raising a penalty of Five hundred Dollars for non compliance, and the same penalty upon any boarding Officer or collector for neglecting to report and prosecute any case of omission which may come within his knowledge. Making it the duty of the collector to prosecute the vessels as well as Commander or owner, and giving him the power to graduate the penalty to a sum not less than One hundred dollars according to the circumstances of ingnorance or aggravation and creating a lien upon and holding the vessel liable for the amount.

As to the passport I beg to refer you to my former Letter. The British Parliament enforce the taking of it by penalty in all cases, of going to England, by subjects or foreigners, and persons going from or coming to the United States from foreign countries, produce their passports if there are Consuls in the vicinity of their departure. This document is good not only in itself but is highly useful as an incidental paper connected with the general enforcement of the revenue, and those local port laws which Texas will soon see the necessity of passing. It is also useful in preventing smuggling, espionage and any thing connected with mystery want of character or fraud in the Trade. for it is a document which is in trade and intercourse constantly called for and referred to and adds dignity and safety to the affairs of a country. This document may be the subject of instructions or statute as you may deem fit but perhaps a statute would be preferable. By the act of Congress of the United States, persons residing out of the United States and interested in any shipment made to the United States, must have their invoices authenticated before a Consul, or vice Consul of the United States, and in case there is none in the Country in which they reside, the invoices must be authenticated before some Magistrate, of that Country. This is considered and published as one of the most important laws and rules for the conduct of the revenue here, and if the words of U. States were stricken out and the Republic of Texas inserted it would read right for us. That is All persons residing out of Texas &c. The usual fee of the Consul is two Dollars for each seal, or act of authentication, and it would be well at present to adopt in the Law the practice of the British Consulate for all other writings or official acts. I mention these things not because they are of any moment at present, as the fees are scarcely worth speaking of, but because it will become the duty of the Consul General to instruct the Vice Consuls on these points, and he would be at a loss now what to say to them. If Sir, you will be so kind as to procure a law to be passed as quickly as possible, embracing all the above points, and as soon as it is passed, if you would be at the trouble of transmitting a certified Copy to me, you would do an act very useful to our common Country, in many respects, but more particularly in the security of its revenue, and which I am assured you will take a pleasure in doing. As yet these points scarcely occupy any of my time. It is wholly taken up in interviews, correspondence and other matters exclusively connected with our Republic, and useful only in a general sense in the promotion of emigration trade and National character. But our trade is daily increasing and it is necessary that we should lay down fixed and preventive rules before vicious habits of trade creep in upon us. I am with sentiments of cordial and high esteem your Obt. Servt. John Woodward

N. Townsend
relative to the
imprisonment
Lieut Taylor
& crew of Texian
Schr.
Independence

Consulate of Texas, for New Orleans,
Natchez Octo. 29. 1837. Hon. Secy of State, Sir, Annexed I transmit you a copy of a communication recently received from Lieut. J. W. Taylor of the Texian Armed Schr. Independence in behalf of himself and his fellow sufferers who it appears are incarcerated in a loathsome prison and dependent on the kindness and charity of strangers for their daily subsistence.
Comment I deem unnecessary and

trust the Government of Texas will conceive it her interest as well as imperative duty to render them every assistance in her power to alleviate their sufferings and distress in as much as it was their misfortune to fall into the hands of a cruel and relentless enemy at a time when they were fighting her Battles in defence of Civil and religious liberty. With sentiments of profound respect and consideration,

I am Dear Sir, Your very obt. Servt. Mathl. Townsend.

Copy

J.W. Taylor relative to Townsend, Esq.

Matamoras Sep. 4. 1837. To Nathaniel Townsend, Esq, Sir, Our very unpleasant situation, closely confined without any kind impris money of our own, dependent upon the humanity of the foreigners here, ever since our arrival for our daily subsestance, has induced us to address you. It is at Mataro to be hoped that the Government will either make some provisions for our support or endeavour to obtain our release immediately or as soon as possible, all of us having been in the service for a length of time, feel entitled to some consideration from Government. Our situation is more unpleasant than you can imagine. Sincerely believing that you will take this into consideration immediately I remain respectfully your obt Servt.

Signed Lieut. J.W. Taylor.

Thos. H. McIntire resignation as Chief Justice

Houston Nov. 1. 1837 To His Excellency Sam Houston, Sir, I beg leave to State that it is not my intention to reside in the County of Goliad for which County I had the honor to receive a Commission as Chief Justice, therefore I hereby tender you my resignation.

I have the honor to be your most obt. Servt. Thos. H. McIntire

G.W. Smyth wishing his claims settled with Govt

County of Jasper, Nov. 1. 1837. Hon. R. A. Irion, Secy. of State. Dear Sir, When I was in Houston last Summer you had the goodness to accompany me to the Attorney General, and take his opinion as to the settlement of my business with the Government. (an Acc of money which I had paid out) You recollect his opinion was that an Act of Congress on the subject was necessary. I must again beg the interposition of your friendship. I wish to know whether any such Act has passed, and in what manner I shall proceed in order to have a final settlement of this matter. If you will be so good as to write to me on this subject (without laying too heavy a contribution on more important avocations) will be gratefully received. Your friend sincerely Geo. W. Smyth

Nomination confirmed by the Senate for Chief Justices & one refused.

His Ex. Sam. Houston, Senate Chamber, Nov. 8. 1837. The Senate have unanimously advised and consented to the following nominations made by your Excellency under date of the 7th. Nov. 1837. viz. Sinclair D. Gervais, Chief Justice of Matagorda County. Henry Millard ditto Jefferson County. Francis T. Gaines ditto Sabine County. Iris Hayes ditto Victoria County. And have refused to ratify the nomination of Colin Aldrich County of Houston. (Copied from Journals of Senate Nov. 8. 1837)

Arthur Robertson Sec. Senate.

M. Parker
Election
return for
Justice of
the Peace.

At a special election held in the Town of Milam
District and County of Sabine, Republic of Texas, on Saturday the nineteenth
day of August 1837 for a Justice of the Peace in the place of John S.
Lane resigned, William Walker was elected without opposition.
In witness whereof I have hereunto set my
hand and private Seal there being no public seal of Office. M. Parker C.J.

F. C. Lubbock
relative to the
printing of
Laws &c.

Representative Hall, Resolved that the
Secretary of State be required to lay before the House his proceedings under
a joint resolution authorizing him to contract for the printing of Two thous-
and Copies of the Laws together with Copies of the Contracts and the state
of the printing. Adopted, Nov. 9. 1837. Francis R. Lubbock C. C. H. R.

R. Wilson
relative to
certain
letter.

Committee Room, Nov. 9. 1837 His Exc.
Sam. Houston, Sir, The Committee on Naval Affairs to which was referred the
consideration of your Excellency's message with regard to Hon. S. Rhoads Fisher
respectfully request that your Excellency would transmit to them a letter or a
copy of the same written to your Excellency by the late Ralph Thompson in reply
to one addressed to him dated 11th. June. Yr. ob Serv. R. Wilson, Chm.

Nominations
Confirmed
by the Senate.

Senate Chamber Nov. 13. 1837. To His
Excellency Sam. Houston, Sir, The Senate unanimously advise and consent
to the following nominations made by your Excellency under date of 9th. inst.
R. A. Irion Secretary of State. B. E. Bee, Secretary of War. J. C.
Allen Chief Justice County of Refugio. (Copied from Journals)
Arthur Robertson C. C. Senate

J. Fisher
Soliciting
the appoint-
ment to Vera-
Cruz.

City of Houston, Nov. 17. 1837. To
His Excellency Sam. Houston, Sir, Understanding that there is now
before the House a Bill authorizing you to appoint a Notary Public each
for Galveston and Velasco my object in this communication is to ask
the appointment to Velasco should the Bill pass, as I intend making
that place my residence. As to my qualifications I have only to say
I have been for sixteen years exclusively engaged in foreign and domestic
business in shipping and the duties of a Notary were nearly daily re-
quired. I would not make the application but have been nearly
five months sick unable to do anything, exausted my means, and
am compelled to resort to something by which I can earn an earnest
livelihood for myself and a small family. Should you think proper
to honor me with the appointment please communicate to me
at Velasco, and oblige

Respectfully your friend and well wisher
John Fisher

Confirmation of the nomin. Sam. Houston, relative to Wm. Hunter as Chief Justice

Senate Chamber, Nov. 20. 1837. To His Excellency Sam. Houston, The Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Wm. S. Hunter as Chief Justice for the County of Goliad. Arthur Robertson. Sec. Sen.

N. Townsend wishing for the laws in force in Texas

Consulate of Texas, New Orleans, Nov. 24. 1837. To Hon. Sec. of State, Sir, I have written your Department so often and urgently in regard to the importance of my being early and regularly put in possession of authentic intelligence of what Laws are in force in Texas and what may hereafter be passed and in force, that I fear you may consider me vexatious, Nevertheless I will venture again to call your serious attention to this subject and urge you earnestly as you value the vital interests of the country to forward me the laws that are now in force by the earliest conveyance, and as Congress enact laws hereafter, I trust they will be regularly forwarded to me, as early as possible as great numbers are daily calling on me for intelligence, and it is mortifying to me as well as irritating to them, not having it in my power to afford them the desired information.

I am with due consideration Yours very Respectfully Nath.l Townsend

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Bryan Wm relative to the adjudication of the Brig Pocket.

New Orleans, Nov. 24. 1837. Hon. R. A. Irion Secretary of State, Sir, Your note of Octo. 27th. with the record of the Court adjudicating the case of the Brig Pocket came duly to hand, we have handed the papers to the Attorneys in the case, they have advised me as follows, that the papers sent are not sufficient, that they have obtained an adjournment of the case, to the first Monday in January, to enable you to transmit the necessary documents which are as follows.

The decree entered anew in the open Court with the decree certified by you under the great Seal as an official document, should your Court not be in session Judge Collinsworth may be able to advise some other means to prove that a regular decree was made in the case; Judge Franklin is soon expected here, and should other evidence fail his deposition may answer the purpose, provided we receive a certificate under Seal of State, that he was at the time a Judge, with admiralty jurisdiction, I would respectfully urge upon you in any case to forward such a certificate as it may be of great importance. There can be no delay beyond the time named, and should the case be lost under the present rates of Scrip it would require an immence sacrifice to meet the judgement in Cash. I have not the least question that the suit can be gained if the documents named are forwarded. I request that they may be sent in duplicate. You will readily perceive the necessity of an early and prompt attention to this business. I have the honor to be &c

Yours Respectfully Wm. Bryan.

J. T. Mason Commr. to U. States

New York Nov. 27. 1837. Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State Sir, After the communication made to you from Nacogdoches in relation to an association with Gen. Hunt in forwarding the views of the Texas Government at Washington, everything conspired to defeat

my wishes; and the one insurmountable was ill health. The consequence was a protracted journey, and I did not reach here till the 27th. Sept; on the next day I addressed a Letter to Gen. Hunt, and found that his correspondence with Mr Forsyth, had commenced and terminated in a manner to preclude any further negotiation at the present moment on the subject of principal interest, and the one in which I was more especially charged to give my aid. Being at the same time an invalid and much business to attend to and Congress about adjourning in a few days I did not go on to Washington but have had the satisfaction of seeing Gen. Hunt here in company with Mr Grayson the Attyy General. In our conference I found that Mr Grayson was charged with the same authority as myself, and would remain at Washington during the ensuing session of Congress. I therefore have concluded that my presence there would be unnecessary and Mr. Grayson and Gen. Hunt seemed to concur in this view. Indeed it was doubtful whether I could give the time to the objects contemplated and whether my health would permit. The neglect of my business has been great in consequence of a protracted decripitude from a severe attack of Gout, and I am here now without having been able to join my family at Detroit. In the course of a few days I hope to go there and from thence proceed South to which climate I must resort for a permanent restoration to health. According to my present arrangements I anticipate being in Texas in March or February next. I beg you to accept the assurances of my high consideration and perfect esteem.

John T. Mason.

Res. P. To the Hon. Secretary of State, Resolved that the Secretary of State be, and he is hereby instructed to furnish the Committee of Foreign Relations all the correspondence which has taken place between our Ministers Messrs Wharton and Hunt, near the Government of the United States and that Government. Adopted by Senate the 29th Novr. 1837.

Arthur Robertson Sec. Senate.

Hon. La Branche relative to the Brig Pocket Durango.

Legation of the United States, Houston 29th November 1837, Hon. R. A. Irion Secretary of State, Sir, As I had the capture of honor of apprizing you a few days ago it becomes my duty to submit for the Brig Mally the claims of citizens of the United States who have suffered injury from your government or its officers, with a request that the same be laid before his Excellency the President.

I would, I apprehend do injustice to your intelligence and sense of equity, were I to conceive that, more than a mere statement of the facts were necessary to convince you of the validity of these claims, and of the propriety of acknowledging them; I will therefore confine myself to a brief recital of the circumstances of the case.

On the 20th. of March 1836 the Brig Pocket sailing under American Colours, and belonging to Citizens of the United States left New Orleans bound to Metamoras. On her voyage she was captured by the Texian armed schooner Invincible Commanded by Jeremiah Brown and carried to Galveston and with her Cargo,

appropriated without trial or condemnation by persons acting under the authority of the Texian Government. The Captain and Crew with the exception of the second Mate who was still more severely dealt with, were detained nineteen days at that place after which they were released and suffered to embark for New Orleans. Permission was given them to take such articles of private property as belonged to them, but after a general search they were unable to find anything — their clothing, hats books, quadrants, charts, were all missing, having been already secured by the Captors. Previous to this, the passengers were transferred on board of a Texian armed schooner Brutus; where they were all stripped and searched by a person named Damon who acted as Lieut. and four of them viz. Hill, Hogan, Muye, and Campo; were immediately put in double irons by him one of the passengers, Taylor, had his trunks broken open, by this Damon, and 497 dollars together with other property taken therefrom amounting in value in all to 800 dollars, when he desired to obtain a simple receipt for the money alone, he was also put in double irons. Hogan and Campo received one hundred lashes on the bare back, with a cat o' nine tails, stretched on an eighteen pound Canon, and were threatened by Hurd acting as Captain of the Brutus and Damon that they should be hanged. The foreyard was accordingly loosened and braced for that purpose, and these inoffending victims were actually brought on deck, with ropes around their necks, and tortured with their impending fate. Somers and Taylor were kept in double irons, the former for the space of twenty five days, and the latter for seven weeks. At the expirations of these periods, instead of being released, they were forcibly detained without any legal pretext or excuse for upwards of four months, and seven months separately, when they were permitted to depart for the United States. Somers during all this period was compelled to perform various work, such as unloading vessels &c and had all his clothing and instruments of navigation taken from him. As American citizens, proud of a title honored and respected by all nations, and under the protection of their flag, they had a right to expect exemption from violence or outrage from any quarters but most of all from officers acting under the authority of the people of Texas, whose reminiscences of a common country, consanguinity and sympathy should still be so vividly entertained and afford such constant sources of pleasing emotions.

The Brig Durango commanded by James C. Ryan, also an American vessel was seized in Matagorda Bay and pressed into Texian service by the orders of John A. Wharton Adjutant General of the Texian forces, and William S. Brown Commander of the Texian armed schooner Liberty. Said vessel sailed from the Port of New Orleans for the port of Matagorda. Captain Ryan finding himself deprived of his vessel and being unable to reclaim her in a legal way was compelled to abandon her, but recorded his dissent from this proceeding by entering his protest in due form before Charles Wilson, primary Judge of the department of the Brazos, and jurisdiction of Matagorda on the 22nd March 1836.

The facts above mentioned in relation to the capture of these vessels are made known to me by documents in my possession duly attested, and which I am ready to communicate to you should you desire it.

The amount claimed for the vessels is eight thousand and fifty dollars which I am instructed to demand of

the Texian Government, and also to require an indemnity for the property taken from the individuals on board and for the other injuries they received. For the latter claim I refer to future consultation with you to determine what shall be deemed fair and equitable, and I doubt not we shall agree upon that point, as well as upon the justice and propriety of the present application for redress.

The almost universal reprobation that has attended the capture of the Pocket and the confidence I entertain in the loyalty justice and magnanimity of your Government induce me to abstain from making any comments or animadverting upon the conduct of those engaged in that affair in strong that my feelings would prompt.

I have the honor to be Sir, with high consideration your Obt. Servant

Alex La Branche

Confirmation of the nomination of W. S. Underwood Dist. Atty.

Senate Chamber, Nov. 30. 1837. To His Exc. Sam. Houston, Sir, The nomination of Warren L. Underwood as District Attorney for the first Judicial District of the Republic of Texas, has been unanimously confirmed by the Senate.

M. Sevey Act. Sec. Senate

J. Birdsall relative to alien representatives inheriting the estate of decedents in Texas

Copy of Letter from the Act. Attorney General to Sec. of State, Dec. 2. 1837.

To the Hon: Sec. of State, Sir, In reply to the legal query of Mr Reid propounded in his letter to you of Sept. 2nd concerning the right of alien Representatives to inherit the estate of decedents in Texas, prior to our Revolution, I can only offer the opinion I have already given to my own clients on the same point, which is that as to all estates denied under the Colonization Laws the lineal representatives of the deceased, though aliens may inherit.

The question is one of construction as yet, an open one in the country, and must therefore abide the contingency of judicial action.

Altho Spain and probably Mexico seemed to have followed the general practice of modern nations of excluding aliens from the privilege of holding the Land of the country, yet I think the special provisions of the Colonization Laws on this subject, taken in connexion with their peculiar policy which was to invite and favor foreign emigration and their necessary tendency to leave many estates without heirs in the country, and therefore lost to the family and friends of the emigrant, unless aliens can hold them will justify a construction enabling them to hold.

Mr Reid does not state in his letter whether the legal representatives of the deceased and his children or more remote relations. If they are his children the laws of Nations gives them the benefit of their fathers' domicil for all the purposes of representing the succession or inheritance. This Domicil is thus if he was a Citizen of Texas at his death they are Citizen heirs, and alien heirs though yet resident in a foreign Country. This is a general principal of international law.

Very Respectfully Yours &c.

Jno. Birdsall

Rad. Hon. Sec'y. of State, Dear Sir, The Journals of the Consultation were also called for by the Senate, but our Clerk has made a mistake in drawing off the Resolution. Be so good as to send them as they are imperiously wanted. Dec. 5. 1837.

Wm. H. Wharton.

Rad. Resolved, that the Committee to whom was referred the Land Bill, have power to call upon the Secretary of State for Journals of the Council of Nov. '35 and of provisional Government. Senate Chamber, Dec. 5th. 1837.

Arthur Robertson, Sec'y. of Senate

C. Van Ness relative to the Confiscation of Property &c.

Bexar Dec. 4. 1837. Hon R. A. Irion Sec'y of State, Sir Upon an examination of the records existing in the office of the Clerk of this County, I perceive that there is a large number of documents that furnish the foundation for prosecutions and suits of various kinds in which the interests of the Republic is involved; and I am without any instructions, except the general ones that the duties of my office furnish, in relation to my proceedings in the cases. In ordinary times I could have no doubt as to my cause of action, but such is the unsettled state of the country, and such the nature of the business, to which I refer, that I am diffident as to the propriety of taken any steps without being previously informed of the views and wishes of the Government. Much, and I presume the greater part of the property which will be subject to confiscation for political offences, either lies, or the proprietors thereof resided within the limits of this Judicial District, and I have now in my possession a list of a number of such persons, to which is appended an account of their property both real and personal, and of the proof that can be adduced in substantiation of the charges against them. These persons are beyond the Rio Grande, and have not been in Texas since the retreat of the Mexican Army. It is in relation to the proceedings to be instituted against this class of persons and the time said proceedings should be commenced &c. that I should be pleased to hear from you. There are also receipts and accounts of monies that have been paid into the hands of Officers of this District, which monies belong but have never been rendered unto the Government. And lastly there are receipts and vouchers for a considerable amount of money taken from the funds of the Corporation by orders from Commanding Officers and paid over to some other Officer or Officers, of which sums I presume the Government has no information. As to the two last mentioned cases, I shall commence proceedings, at the next term of the District Court, unless otherwise directed and in the first I shall await instructions I was informed when at Houston about two months since that I would find at the Office in this place the Acts of Congress, but so far from this being the case there is not a single copy of any of the Laws here. If sent some negligence has occurred in the delivery.

Of a political nature I can furnish no information of importance. Five days since a party of men came in from Laredo, and report that no unusual changes had lately occurred there, nor any mustering of Troops, nor excitement of a hostile kind was perceptible On the contrary that all the frontier inhabitants were well disposed towards Texas and were most impatiently and anxiously awaiting the termination of the wa

in order to open the Trade. I have the honor to be your obt. Servt. C. Van Ness.

C. Van Ness resignation of two Justices Peace.

Bexar Dec. 5. 1837. To the hon. Secy of State, Sir, I transmit you herewith the resignations of two of the Justices of Peace, of this County, which have been handed to me with a request that I would forward them to the Government. In virtue of this step and of the urgent necessity that exists on account of the disorganized state of affairs in the country for those officers, the Chief Justice Don. Erasmus Seguin has issued a writ for an election to be held on next Saturday. I have the honor to be your obedient Servant

C. Vanness.

Confirmation of Nominations

Senate Chamber, Dec. 5. 1837. To His Excellency the President, The Senate advise and consent to the following nominations made by your Excellency, To wit, Shelby Corzine, Commissioned to run the boundary line, in place of S. R. Fisher removed. Wm. M. Shepherd, Secretary of the Navy, vice P. W. Grayson resigned. John Birdsall, Attorney General, Peter W. Grayson, Naval Agent to the United States. E. M. Peace Comptroller of the Treasury. Wm. G. Cook Genl. Stock Commissioner. Robert H. Foote, Chief Justice of the County of San Augustine. Robert H. Cassin Lieutenant in the Navy.

Arthur Robertson Sec. Sen.

Confirmation of the Nomination of A. G. Welchmeyer as second Auditor

Senate Chamber, Dec. 11. 1837. To His Excellency the President, The Senate advise and consent to the nomination of A. G. Welchmeyer as second Auditor of this Republic.

Arthur Robertson Sec. Sen.

Confirmation of the Nomination of F. R. Lubbock as Comptroller

Senate Chamber Dec. 13. 1837 To His Excellency the President, The Senate have advised and consented to the nomination of F. R. Lubbock as Comptroller of the Republic, also to the nomination of Cornelius Van Ness for District Attorney, of the fourth Judicial District of the Republic of Texas.

Arthur Robertson Sec. Sen.

A. Briscoe Election Returns

Republic of Texas, Harrisburg County, To the Hon. R. A. Irion Secretary of State, of the Republic of Texas, At an election held at the Town of Houston on the sixth day of November, of the current year by John W. Moore, of the said Town in pursuance of an order by me to him to issued and of legal notice thereof previously by publication given, for two Justices of the Peace and one Constable for the 5th Militia District of this County consisting of the League of Land on which is situated the Town of Houston and on a return thereof duly made. John Shea, and Wm. G. Evans, of the said Town of Houston were elected Justices of the Peace, and James M. McGee was elected a Constable for the said District, who by proclamation were to hold their Offices till the next general election in February next. And

in pursuance of notice given them; of their said elections they all three came forward on the same day and took before me the oath of office prescribed by Law. All which appears by the records of my Office, Houston Dec. 30. 1837 Your obedient Servant

A. Briscoe, C. I. H. C.

J. Birdsall rule to the Brig Pocket.

Houston, Dec. 14. 1837. Hon. R. A. Irion Secretary of State, Sir, After an attentive examination of the case of the Brig Pocket, I am satisfied the payment alledged to have been made to the Master at New Orleans in behalf of this Government for the vessel and freight, is obligatory upon the owners and conclusion of their right. The Master is the accredited Agent of the Ship owner, the world over. His Agency terminates by no means with the Captain of the vessel. He still represents the Owners of Ship and Cargo and is bound to use every effort not inconsistent with good faith to protect and benefit their interests. He may arange with the Captors and purchase the vessel in behalf of the owners before or after condemnation. If the capture is adjudged unlawful he is the person to receive her after judgement of restitution.

The Agency of the Master in this case was continued in behalf of the owners, independent of receiving payment for the vessel and freight by the most solemn act he is ever called on to perform in his official character viz. his protest against the Capture. This document bears date after the sale of the Brig to Messrs Toby and Brothers, and after having received full payment for vessel and freight. The insurers in New York should have been apprised of this arangement with the Master. Had the Protest been accompanied with this information the Insurance Company would have given a prompt and decided refusal to my application of the assured for either a total or partial loss. Whether Messrs Barclay and Livingston were possessed of this information does not appear – but as regards our responsibilities in the matter it is in my judgement quite immaterial whether they were or were not apprised of it. It would be most extraordinary if these parties arangeing with the general Agent of the assured as the owners of the vessel were responsible for the faithful application of funds committed to his hands in the regular course of his agency, or for losses resulting from his bad faith or inattention. The demand in this case of the Insurance Office does not appear to have been paid, by any document presented to us. I should infer from the deposition of the President of the Co. that it was suspended for investigation. If the payment to the Master made as it was in perfect good faith, and for the benefit of the concerned is brought to the knowledge of the Co. I cannot doubt it will at once silence all claims on their part upon this Government. Very Respectfully Yours &c. J. Birdsall, Atty General.

N. B. It will of course be necessary to procure the requisite proofs of payment having been made to the Capt.

Election of Officers relative to the Land Law.

Representative Hall Dec. 15. 1837 I certify that an election was held by joint vote of both houses of Congress for the several officers contemplated by the "Land Law" and that for the Com

of Shelby, George English was elected President of the Board of said Commissioners, Willet H. Landrum, and George Rutter associate Comrs. Milton M. Edwards Clerk of ditto. and Richard Harper County Surveyor. For the County of San Augustine, Alexander Horton President of the Board Nicodemus Thomas and Nathaniel Hunt associate Comrs. John C. Brooks Clerk of ditto. and John McGorkin, County Surveyor.

Jos. Rowe Secretary

Election of Officers in accordance

The Senate met in joint session with the House of Representatives in their Chamber for the purpose of electing the Officers with land contemplated under the Land Bill passed Dec. 14th 1837 and the following Bill, persons were elected, viz.

Counties of

Austin

James McNutt. President.
Martin Allen } Commissioners.
Robert Kleybrug }
H. Kleybrendall, Clerk.
Kenney Surveyor.

Bexar

David Mauphea President
John S. Simpson } Commissioners
John McCrary }
Wm. P. Delman Clerk
R. C. Trimble Surveyor.

Buzoria

Edward Waller President
Theodore Bennett } Commissioners
A. C. Hyde }
Thos. H. Blackwell Clerk
W. H. Hunt Surveyor

Colorado

Abraham Alley President
Williamson Daniels } Commissioners
William Thompson }
Robt. Brotherton Clerk
L. L. Hagler Surveyor

Fayette

Reddein Sidears President
Geo. W. Spice } Commissioners
Lard Reddein }
M. W. Eastland Clerk
Thos. Green Surveyor.

Counties of

Fannin

Bailey English President
Jos. Murphy } Commissioners
Wm. H. Burton }
Jas. Slaton Baker Clerk
Daniel Montague Surveyor

Fort Bend

Randall Jones President
Daniel Perry } Commissioners
Hiram Thompson }
W. H. Poole Clerk
P. P. Borden Surveyor

Gonzales

Jos. W. Clements President
James Hodges } Commissioners
Wm. J. Mathews }
Saml. Williams Clerk
Chas. Lockhart Surveyor

Goliad

Wm. P. Patterson President
M. B. Lamar } Commissioners
Wm. Bromley }
Andrew Neal Clerk
Richd. F. Ford Surveyor

Houston

Stephen Boyd President
Elijah Gossett } Commissioners
John Hallum }
Saml. F. Wells Clerk
Geo. Hood Surveyor.

Counties &c.

Hardesburg.

B. C. Smith	President
Wm. P. Harris	Commissioners
Jas. S. Holman	
R. L. Johnson	Clerk
E. W. Patrick	Surveyor.

Jefferson

Calvin West	President
John Bellinger	Commissioners
Hezekiah Williams	
Jos. P. Pulsifer	Clerk
Andrew Smith	Surveyor

Jasper

G. W. Smith	President
John Cook	Commissioners
Thos. R. Hubing	
Robt. A. Pennett	Clerk
Martin R. Lewis	Surveyor.

Jackson

Patrick Usher	President
Francis McWhite	Commissioners
John Andrews	
John L. Monroe	Clerk
Thos. Simmons	Surveyor.

Liberty.

Wm. P. Coit	President
Hugh B. Johnson	Commissioners
H. W. Farley	
R. W. Miles	Clerk
Franklin Harden	Surveyor

Montgomery

E. Collard	President
W. Ro. Brown	Commissioners
Jesse Parker	
B. B. Goodridge	Clerk
Wm. Robinson	Surveyor

Mina.

Samuel Ro. Patton	President
Josiah Wilberger	Commissioners
Wm. Sage	
Russel B. Coast	Clerk
Bartlett Sims	Surveyor.

Counties &c.

Milam.

A. B. Henry	President
David McCandlis	Commissioners
Bell	
E. L. Hickney	Clerk
Thos. A. Graves	Surveyor

Matagorda

Sam'l. L. Brigham	President
Hamilton L. Cook	Commissioners
Thos. Hamilton	
W. C. Cady	Clerk
E. Ro. Wightman	Surveyor.

Nacogdoches

David Rusk	President
Wm. Hart	Commissioners
Adolphus Menc	
R. H. Mouse	Clerk
W. A. Farris	Surveyor

Robertson.

Thos. Willard	President
James Baird	Commissioners
Leander Hall	
A. L. McCoy	Clerk
Hugh W. Cook	Surveyor

Red River

M. W. Matthews	President
James Latimer	Commissioners
David Lane	
Benj. Gooch	Clerk
Jeff. Milan	Surveyor.

Refugio

J. C. Allen	President
Martin Power	Commissioners
Walter Lambert	
Rich'd. Roman	Clerk
Reuben Roberts	Surveyor

San Patricio

Mark Donald	President
Michael Finley	Commissioners
Benj. Nutten	
J. P. Lancary	Clerk
John Buchanan	Surveyor

Counties of Sabine

John Boyd	President
Martin D. White	Commissioners
John H. McGray	Commissioners
W. H. Harris	Clerk.
Harman Frazer	Surveyor.

Counties of Shelby.

Geo. English	President
W. H. Landrum	Commissioners
Geo. Butler	Commissioners
L. M. Edwards	Clerk
Richard Hooper	Surveyor

San Augustine

Alex. Horton	President
J. D. Thomas	Commissioners
Math. Hunter	Commissioners
John C. Brook	Clerk
John McGowan	Surveyor.

Victoria

Edw. Linn	President
John McHenry	Commissioners
Arthur Burns	Commissioners
Oscar Farrish	Clerk
James Carr	Surveyor.

Washington

Stephen R. Roberts	President
Jesse Bartlett	Commissioners
Jas. W. Smith	Commissioners
Prosper Hope	Clerk
Adolphus Hope	Surveyor.

Jos. Rowe. Speaker of the House of Repts.
A. H. Everitt, President protem. of the Senate.

E. Birdsall
relative to the appointment of Chief Justices

Houston Dec. 17. 1837 To His Excellency the President, Sir; Agreeably to your instructions I have examined the Constitution in reference to the appointment of Chief Justices of the several Justice's Counties.

By the concluding paragraph of the fifth section of Article Sixth it is declared that the President with the consent of the Senate "shall appoint all Officers whose offices are established by this Constitution and not herein otherwise provided for".

The Sixth section of Article fourth, declares "there shall be in each County a County Court and such Justices Court as the Congress may from time to time establish".

Are the County Judges "Officers, whose offices are established by the Constitution?

The "County Court" is in terms established by the Constitution, and unless we can conceive of the existence of a Court without Judges or Officers it would seem to follow as a necessary consequence that its Judges are Officers whose offices are created by the Constitution.

The idea of a Court whether in common acceptation or in judgement of law, always embraces one or more Judges or Officers. To say that a County Court shall be established in each County is equivalent to saying there shall be appointed in each

County, certain officers or Judges who shall constitute a County Court.

The organization of the Court the number of the Judges that should compose it the extent and character of its jurisdiction &c was left to the regulation of Congress.

They have prescribed that the Court should consist of a Chief Justice and Two Justices of the Peace who are to act as Asst. Justices.

The Constitution provides for the election of all Justices of the Peace by the people, leaving the appointment of the Chief Justice unprovided for.

I am therefore clearly of opinion that the Chief Justices of the several Counties are officers whose offices is created by the Constitution and whose appointment is not provided for, except by the 5th. section of the 6th. article.

That the appointment consequently to be in accordance with the constitution must be made by the President and Senate.

Very Respectfully Your obt. Servt.
John Birdsall Atty Genl.

Election of officers in accordance with Militia Bill.

Houston Dec. 18. 1837. The following persons were duly elected to fill the offices under the Militia bill passed Dec. 18. 1837.

Major General	Brig. Genl. 1st Brigade	2nd Brigade	3rd Brigade
Thomas J. Rusk.	E. Burleson.	Moseley Baker.	K. H. Douglas.
4th. Brigade	Adjutant General.		
John H. Dyer.	Hugh McLeod.		

Attest, A. L. McCoy.
Act. Clk. Ho. R. of R.
Arthur Robinson Sec. Senate

Jos. Rowe, Speaker H. of R.
S. H. Everett, Prest. pro tem. of the Senate.

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be charged with the care of the Building now occupied by Congress, during its recess and that he be authorized to employ a suitable person to attend to the same.

Read 18th. Dec. '37.
Adopted.

F. A. Sawyer relative to the Brig Pocket.

Brazoria Dec. 21. 1837. Hon. Sec. of State.

My dear Sir, As soon as I arrived here I made out a decree on the back of the original petition in the case of the Brig Pocket and sent it by express, together with a certified copy, ofc to Judge Robinson both of which he signed as was required and returned to me, the original decree I have filed in the Office of the Clerk of the District Court, the certified copy dated about the 4th. Dec. and signed by Scott who was at that time Clerk of the District Court and c[illegible] to by Judge Robinson I enclosed to you and hope you have received it in [illegible] time to prepare it to go by the present trip of the Columbia.

Whatever compensation you and [illegible]

Birdsall agree upon for my services will be perfectly satisfactory to me. You will recollect that I was in the summer of '36 District Attorney, for the admiralty District of Texas, and had a good deal of trouble in this case besides having argued it before Judge Franklin for which I have received nothing.

Sincerely yours, F. A. Sawyer.

United States of America, State of Kentucky

Notary Public's Office, Dec. 22. 1837. Sir, A Bond or Note of the following purport and effect To wit,

$10,080.

Newport Kentucky,
U. States of America
June 19. 1837.

M. M. Benton protesting Draft of A. S. Thruston

Six months after date the Republic of Texas promises to pay to John W. Tibbotts or order at the office of the Northern Bank of Ken-y at Covington, Ten thousand and eighty dollars with interest at the rate of 10 pr. ct. pr. annum from this date in money receivable in deposit at par in said Bank, without defalcation for value received. Witness A. S. Thruston, Commissary General for said Republic.

Witness
John W. King
Sydney Sherman.

Signed, A. S. Thruston
Commissary Gen. of Texas.

Endorsed John W. Tibbotts.

Was this day by me publicly protested for non payment, after demanding payment at said Bank at the close of Bank hours on said day and receiving for answer "no funds in Bank to pay it" whereupon the same was duly protested and the said Bank the holder thereof looks to your Government the said Republic for immediate payment.

Very Respectfully Yours M. M. Benton
Notary Public

A. Bullman relative to the organization of a German Settlement

To His Excellency the President of the Republic of Texas, The undersigned contemplates in connexion with many of his friends so well here and in Europe with permission of the Government in Texas to organise a German Settlement.

The intended Settlers are partly Farmers, who are used and understand the tilling and pasturing and raising all kind of Grain Hemp and Flax, and renowned for cutting excellent German and Frankonia stones, And a number of them Mechanics and Artists which likewise understand the husbandry.

They are natives of Fassia, Frankonia, Rhuingia, and from the borders of the Rivers Rheine, Maque and Moselle; men known of good morals and industry and induced by their love of liberty and Independence, to emigrate with their families to Texas.

To satisfy myself and my friends I beg permission respectfully to solicit your Excellency to grant me an answer to the following questions.

1st. Will the Government sanction a German

settlement in Texas?

2nd Will I be permitted to select a spot for the emigrants settlement?

3rd How many acres would be granted to each member of a family; and how many acres to single men?

4th. Does the emigrant enjoy the same privilege with a Citizen or under what condition may he become a Citizen?

5th. To what Taxes are the Farmers liable and will their be any duties demanded on their implements and on their mechanical tools which they carry with them?

6th. Would the Government make an advance as a loan for the expense of the passage, and the expense of the settlement to those, who though industrious are not able to defray it. And what are the conditions to repay the government?

7th. How many acres would the Government allow me and family, consisting besides myself, of a wife, seven most grown up Sons and one Daughter, considering my trouble and expenses to organize and engage the settlers?

8th. Would the Government allow me or reimburse me for my voyage to Texas, in order to select the spot for the emigrants before they depart from Europe?

9th. Would the Government guarantee the granted Land even if its organization should not be completed, in case that Texas should join herself and become a part of the United States?

I beg humbly allowed to add that the engaged settlers will proove themselves valuable citizens to their new adopted country, and if the Texian Government required their services as Soldiers to defend Texas against any invader my services may be of some value as I have served in Napoleon Campaign in Germany Russia, and every Country as Aide Camp to one of the Generals of Napoleon, and have the Cross of the Legion of Honor.

I estimate the number of settlers about 300, but if the answer of the Sixth question should be satisfactory it would not be difficult to augment them to more than a thousand.

I finally would beseech his Excellency the President of the Independent State of Texas to grant me an answer and direct the same to the Texian Consul of the United States, residing at New York. I am with due respect your most humble Servt.

New York. Dec. 24. 1837

A. Bullman.

E. L. Hom relative to petition

Matagorda, Dec. 27. 1837. To His Excellency Sam. Houston, In the absence of our Representatives Col. A. Horton and Thos. J. Hardeman, I take the liberty of enclosing to your direction a Petition from the Citizens of this Town and County.

With the assurance that your Excellency is at all times ready to receive the prayers and memorials of the humblest of his fellow citizens I subscribe myself with the highest consideration and respect.

Your most Obt. Servt.

Edwd. L. Holm

J. Woodward
relative to
despatches
from Genl.
Hamilton

New Orleans Dec. 27. 1837 Hon. R. A. Irion
Sec'y of State. Sir, On the 27th. inst. just in time to send by the Mail. I
received a communication from our Minister in London. His large package
for the Secretary of State was too weighty to go by the express Mail as an half
an ounce is the undeviating limit there and the package weighed an ounce
and an half. Even when divided it would have been too weighty, had I
possessed a right to open the package. I sent the small letter addressed
to the Attorney General by express Mail with an hasty endorsement that
Gen. Henderson's despatch was coming on in the ordinary Mail. I
have of this date written to the Minister at London, so that this difficulty
will hereafter be set right. I now write so as to give you an opportu=
nity of calculating upon the time at which General Henderson's despatches
may be received in case anything in the Cabinet of Texas should be suspended
on that event, and so as to give an opportunity of adverting to the letter addressed
by General Henderson to the Attorney General of Texas, in case he might
not be present at the exact time of its arrival and any authority should
exist for opening it in anticipation of the general despatches. And
have the honor to be with sentiments of high consideration and regard
your friend and humble Servt.

John Woodward

E. Sequin
relative to
Bond for
County
assessor

Republic of Texas, County of Bexar,
Dec. 28th. 1837. To Hon. R. A. Irion Sec'y of State, Sir I have the
honor to enclose you herewith the Bond given by the assessor appointed for
this County by the Court at its last session which is transmitted to
the Government for its proper ends and purposes.
Most respectfully your obt Servt.

Erasmo Sequin J.P.

E. Collard
relative to the
Law creating
the County of
Montgomery

Montgomery County Dec. 29. 1837
Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec'y of State, Dear Sir, Should the Law creating the
new County of Montgomery not have been printed previous to your re=
ceiving this, will you be pleased to send by the bearer Capt. Gillespie
a manuscript Copy of the Law establishing the County of Montgomery
and greatly oblige

E. Collard. Com.

J. Townsend Duplicate No. 6.
relative to the
Capture and
detention of
Borgelgsang
Nbr. who are
the British
Schr. Eliza

Consulate of Texas, New Orleans Decr.
31st. 1837 To Hon. Sec'y. of State, Sir At the request of Messrs G.
detention of Borgelgsang Nbr. who are acting for Lloyds Agents at Havana, I trans=
mit you a summary of their claim on the Government of Texas in
consequence of the capture and detention of the British Schooner Eliza
Russell Russell, J. Russell Master amounting to 865. 4. 0. Sterling.
I have carefully and attentively ex=
amined the papers and they appear to have taken all the requisite steps
to make the underwriters and others concerned in vessel and Cargo liable.
They desire a reply as soon as prac=
ticable. With great consideration and respect I am your very obt. St.

Nath.l Townsend

Jos. Russell's Account for damages sustained by the
Ac for dam British Schooner Elvira Russell, Joseph Russell Master, occasioned by that
age sustained Vessel having been seized by two Ships under the Texian Flag, and carried into
by the Captain Galveston in Texas.
of the Schooner
E. Russell

Demurrage from the 3rd Aug. 1837 at which date the Schooner was seized till the 25th. Sept. 1837. the day on which she was again able to leave Galveston; 56 days at the rate of £10. per day £560. " "

Additional time over and above that of her detention expended in consequence of her having been carried into Galveston being the number of days she was on her voyage from Galveston to Sisal 28th. Sept. to 11. Octo. 13 days at the rate of £10. per. day £130 " "

Protest at Sisal and two Certificates of same. 3 " 10 " 10

Additional time over and above that of her voyage to Sisal to Havana having left the first port on the 21st. Octo. and arrived in the Harbor of Havana on the 26th. Octo. 1837 for the sole purpose of getting the vessel repaired of the damage occasioned on her in consequence of the said detention being 6 days at the rate of £10 per. day. £60. " "

Additional time over and above that of her repairs having commenced repairing the vessel on the 10th. Nov. last and concluded the same on the 14th. ditto, being 4 days at £10. per. day. £40. " "

Expenses for repairing the damages sustained on the voyage from Galveston to Sisal as appears by the account certified by the Agents for Lloyds $372. 2/2. @ 17 p. premium of exchange. £71. " 13. " 2

£865 " 4. "

Havana, Nov. 15. 1837. Signed Jos. Russell

Recd.
relative to the
legality of Jefferson County Jan. 1. 1838. Hon. Sec. J.
Justices of State, Sir, That portion of this County which lies west of the River Ne-
chas, formerly was a part of Liberty County, and while it was a part of that
the Peace County there was two gentlemen elected and commissioned Justices of the Peace
and they yet fill the functions of their offices. The question is are they
or are they not legal officers in and for the County of Jefferson.

Please Sir Solve this query as it is
a doubt in the minds of some of the Citizens of this place. I am well
pleased with the two gentlemen in question. with high esteem
I remain your Obt Servt.

Claiborne West

Recd.

Victoria Jan. 4. 1838. Hon. R. A. Irion
Sec. of State Sir, I forgot when I left Houston to call at your office for a
few Copies of the Laws that are printed, you will do me the favor to obtain
a few Copies for this place. with due respect I remain yours truly John J. Linn

P.S. Inform me if the act for defining the boundaries of the County of Jackson became a Law, or not, and you will much oblige yours &c. J. J. Lo.

C. Van Ness
relative to illegal surveys of lands & grants of lands

Bexar, March 4. 1838. To the Hon. Secy of State. Sir, The surveyors of the County of San Patricio are now surveying within the bounds of this County, and though they have positive information of the fact they refuse to desist. The dividing line between the two Counties is distinctly laid down upon the charts and defined by acts of the Congress of Coahuila and Texas, and is well known to all the citizens of both. When the surveyors of this County shall commence, and the surveyors shall reach the ground that has been surveyed, I presume they will pay no respect to any lines that may have been made but proceed to execute their orders to the extent of their territorial limits. I have deemed it prudent to inform you of these circumstances, as some instructions from the proper quarter might prevent future difficulties.

There are in this County a number of Mexican concessions or grants of one two three and four leagues each the holders of some having orders of survey obtained previous to the closing of the Land Office in '35. and some never having received any order. Do you consider an order upon a concession of that class as authority for a surveyor? And how are the holders of such grants who have not obtained orders of survey to obtain them? For the Land Commissioners of this County consider themselves prohibited by Law, from considering or noticing in any way a claim to a larger amount than a League and Labor. I shall be much obliged if you will give me your opinion upon the preceeding points.

Should the second volume of the laws have been published please enclose them to me.

The bearer of this will remain in Houston two days and then return.

Most respectfully your obt Servt. C. Van Ness.

Geo. A. Pattillo
relative to the legality of Justices of the Peace

Jefferson County, Jan. 4. 1838. Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec. J. of State. Dear Sir, As there are some doubts and disatisfaction among the people of this County on the subject of the annexed Territory stricken off the County of Liberty, or the legality of its Judiciary officers still acting in this County under commissions for the County of Liberty, I have taken this opportunity to inform you of the same and request your decision on the case, as there are at present important business before the County Court and one of those Justices have been chosen as an associate; if the same be legal and in accordance with the Law, your decision will be thankfully received on the subject. Please write by the return Mail to me to Pattillo Post Office, Jefferson, and much oblige yours,

Geo. A. Pattillo

R. A. I.

Jan. 5th. 1838 Brazoria, Hon. R. A. Irion Sec J. of State, Will you have the kindness to send me a certified Copy of a joint resolution appointing two legal "gentlemen.

to submit a Code of Laws &c. Your compliance will much oblige your friend.
Wm. H. Jack.

J. Hayes.
Election
Returns &c.

Town of Victoria Jan. 14. 1838 To the Hon. Sec^y of State, Sir; I have the honor to send you herewith the names of the different persons who had a majority of votes at an Election for County Officers held in this County on the 10th. inst. for the different offices herein after enumerated, viz. For Justice of the Peace, for the precinct of Linnitts Point, Benjamin H. Perkins, For Justice of the peace for the Town of Victoria, Wm. Mc. Dean, For Sheriff Malcolm A. Johnson. For District Clerk John Mc. Crabb. For County Clerk James A. Moody. For Coroner, John Harrison. For Constable John Harrison.

I would take the liberty to further state to your honor that from depositions which have been taken before me, I am led, to think that some ambitious individuals are trying to render illegal the first election for County Officers which has taken place in this County since we cast off the yoke of Slavery, and became a free and independent people and which I believe to have been conducted in a very impartial manner, and I would further request of your honor to forward the Commissions of those persons elected that we may be enabled, to have the County organized and have the laws enforced, which is so much to be desired by every good Citizen.

And I would further request that you would be pleased to forward me Copies of the Laws that have been published.

I have the honor to be Sir your Ob^t. Humble Sert.
John Hayes. C. Justice

R. A. Foote
Election
Returns -

San Augustin, Jan. 15. 1838. Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec^y of State, Pursuant to an order from you I ordered an election to be held, in this County to fill such vacancies as had occurred among the Justices of the Peace which election was held on the 6th. day of this present month and terminated in the election of Almanson Huston in the Town of San Augustin. John Carson in the South beat, both of which have came forward and taken the oath prescribed by Law. Geo. Browning was duly elected in the western beat but has not yet came forward or notified me whether he will accept.

With the highest consideration of respect I am Sir yours.
Robt. A. Foote C. Justice

A. Smith

Pay and List of Officers now employed in Treasury Department.

Secretary of the Treasury $3.500. Chief Clerk $1500. Treasurer $2500. First Auditor $2500. Chief Clerk $1500. Ass^t. Clerk $1000. Second Auditor $2500. Chief Clerk $1500. Comptroller $2500. Chief Clerk $1500. Commissioner General of Land Office $3000. Chief Clerk $1500. Total pr. annum Salary $25.000.

Add for 3 ass^t. Clerks in Treasury Department which

be necessary when the Department is fully organized $3600. For extra Clerks in Land Office as allowed by Law $2000. Chief Clerks of Treasury to be employed $1500. Ass.t Clerks for Second Auditor and Comptroller when necessary $2000. Stationary, Furniture, Lights &c for the forgoing Offices for one year $4000. Total $38.100.

The Salaries allowed to the Revenue Officers being contingent cannot be correctly ascertained or included in the forgoing as the nett revenue only will be under the control of the Treasury Depart.t

Treasury Department, Houston Octo 10. 1837

Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec.y of State, Dear Sir; In compliance with your note under date of the 9th. inst. enclosing a Copy of a resolution from the Senate requiring the President to furnish certain information &c. I herewith transmit you the foregoing which is believed to be a true list of all the Officers and clerks which are now under pay and compose the different Bureaus of the Treasury Department. The General Post Office Department not being considered a source of revenue it is presumed will form a Bureau entirely seperate and distinct. The Salaries of the Officers at present under pay are as follows. Post Master General $2000. Chief Clerk $1500. making Three thousand five hundred Dollars. Very Respectfully your Ob.t Serv.t

Henry Smith
Sec. of the Treas.y

A. Smith
relation to Stationary

New Orleans, Jan. 15. 1838. Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec.y of State. My dear Sir, I have filled in this City the order for Stationary &c for your Department which you gave me. The purchases were made on my individual credit, and the articles will be forwarded by next opportunity. Please transmit to this City $500. in promissory Notes for payment of these articles, enclosed to Eugene Rousseau, of the house of Lucculli, Lapeyre & Co. and subject to my order. Mr Rousseau will apply it to the payment of the Bill or hold it till my return.

Our notes here are of very uncertain value from 50 to 90 cts in the purchase of goods. I trust they will be at par by the time of my return.

I wrote a letter on my way over although dated at Houston. At the suggestion of some of our friends it was published in the True American. I will send you a Copy.

I have yet learned very little of the politics of this Country, except that times are frightfully hard. Texas after all is the country for plenty of money as well as other things.

Grayson has just arrived in this City.

My kindest regards & most affectionate remembrance to the Old Chief and believe me as ever sincerely Yours

Ashbel Smith.

P.S. I continue my journey to monow. You shall hear from me frequently and more at length. I have purchased Eight

Shades (Glass) send two of them to my quarters if you please.

W. Martin
relative to the location of County seat.

Richmond Fort Bend Cty. Jan. 15. 1838, Hon. Secretary of State, The undersigned has the honor to enclose to the Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas the result of an election held in the City of Richmond on the 13th. inst. for the permanent location of the seat of Justice for the County of Fort Bend, as also for one Sheriff. one clerk of the District Court and one clerk of the County Court. with sentiments of consideration

Wyly Martin Chf. Justice

[illegible]

J. Grimes
relative to the legality of Co. Officers after a division of the Co-

Montgomery Cty. Jan. 15. 1838. Hon. R. A. Irion, Dear Sir when at Houston I learned from you that the Attorney General had under consideration the legality of Officers who were elected in one County and who by division of their County were located in the newly created County holding their Offices without re-election.

This is a subject that interests the new County Montgomery. And is the cause of much discussion and of great difference of opinion. will you do me the kindness to acquaint me with the decision of the Attorney General. I presume that will be submitted to as decisive authority. I arrived at home last night found all well. Very respectfully yours

Jesse Grimes

J. T. Linn
wanting the Laws, generally

Victoria Jan. 15. 1838 Hon. Sec'y. of State Sir, we are in want of the late Law regulating elections. If you have a Copy you will do me a favor to transmit it by Mail, as also the Law for registering Land; and the Laws lately passed for County and Justices Courts. We have got our County organized and want all the information that can be had to direct us. The late law on elections does not permit Officers or Soldiers in the Army to Vote, and in our County elections some of the furloughed men wanted to Vote but the Judge threw out their Votes, Some of them are complaining. I want the Law to shew them of their error. with due respect I remain &c

John T. Linn.

R. E. Cook
resignation as Clk Dist Court.

Jefferson Cty. Jan. 15. 1838. Hon. Sec'y of State, I would respectfully suggest to your honor that I was elected Clerk of the District Court of said District, and for certain reasons hereafter expressed do resign the office to which I aspire to. First I was elected contrary to my wishes having considerable of business to attend to — but notwithstanding the office being near me at that time I accepted the office and gave Bond with security. Since that time the Office has been removed to Beaumont about thirty miles distant from my residence. And in consequence of the

reasons I hope you will accept of my resignation, with much respect I am your obt Servt.

Robt. E. Booth.

J. Wright relative to re-election for Co. Clerk or contested Election.

Victoria Jan. 16. 1837. Hon. Sec. of State of the Republic of Texas, The undersigned would most respectfully represent, That at the late election held in this County for County Officers he was a candidate for clerk of the County Court, That the votes given in were in the first place, at Victoria precinct standing 12 votes for Moody and 7 for Wright; that by the evidence it will appear that one vote was given in after the Polls were closed. which was by Joseph Ward. That Five Votes were taken from the Tickets of James Wright after they were received and put in the Ballot Box, which Five Votes were afterwards rejected entirely, which five added to the seven received by him would have given him twelve equal with Moody. That at the other precincts Moody received 6 Votes and Wright 7 Votes which then made Moody 18 Votes and Wright 19 Votes, which was evidently a majority for Wright. But Wares Vote having been taken, places them equal. And in consequence of which your Petitioner prays that the certificate of election may not be received by you, but that you may order the Chief Justice to hold another election, and withold the Commissions until that can be effected, your petitioner only requiring Justice in the premises, and the election ordered to be held over for the purpose of deciding upon conditional votes, a term not known or understood by any individual. All of which is most respectfully submitted by your obt Servt.

J. Wright

Republic of Texas, County of Victoria, This is to certify that all the following evidence was taken before me at the instance of James Wright contestor, at which the contested party had due Notice and attended and was allowed to cross examine.

Given under my hand &c this 16th day of January 1838.

John Hayes Chf. Justice

Joseph Ward being duly sworn deposeth and sayeth as follows, That I voted at an election held in the Town of Victoria on Wednesday the 10th. day of January for Dean for Justice of the Peace Mc. Crabb for District Clerk, Moody for County Clerk and Hanson for Constable. It was between Sun down and dark, nearest dark when I voted the Judges and Clerks of the election only were present.

Joseph Ward.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 16th. day of Janry. 1838

John Hayes Ch. Jus.

James E. Edmison being duly sworn deposeth and sayeth as follows. Was present at the closing of the polls of an election held in the Town of Victoria for County Officers, five conditional Votes were laid aside — the conditional Votes

that were laid aside were all on white paper. John J. Lynn and Thos. Burry were Judges of election. John J. Lynn laid the conditional votes aside, it was near dark when they were counting out these votes; some of the Tickets handed in at the election were upon yellow paper. I only know that one conditional vote was marked when put into Ballot Box.

James E. his x mark Edmonson

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 16th. day of Jan y. 1838.

John Hayes Ch. Jus.

James Wright having personally appeared before the undersigned, Chief Justice and requested that the evidence of Malcom A. Johnson, James Edmonson, Joseph Ware, and John F. Kempee be taken to perpetuate a certain fact.

Malcom A. Johnson being duly sworn deposeth and sayeth as follows. I was present at the closing of the polls of an election held on Wednesday the 10th. day of January in the Town of Victoria, that the report of the State of the Polls for County Clerk was 12 for Wright and 12 for Moody, that there were five Tickets laid by as conditional, that all the Tickets were put into the Ballot Box from which those five conditional Tickets were taken. I did not see the Judges place a mark on any of the Tickets, I could not tele whether those Tickets were the conditional ones or not.

Malcom A. Johnson

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15th. day of Jan. 1838

John Hayes. Ch. Jus.

John F. Kempee being duly sworn sayeth, I was present at an election held in the Town of Victoria on Wednesday the 10th. day of January, That my vote was objected to but was afterwards received conditionally. That James Wright requested that my Ticket should be examined before it was put in the Ballot Box, so that it might be ascertained for whom I voted. Mr Lynn one of the Judges said it was not necessary, it was put in the Ballot Box as the others were without being numbered or marked to my knowledge.

John F. Kempee.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 16th. day of Jan. 1838

John Hayes Ch. Just.

John F. Kempee further sayeth, That if Wood and McKey voted they ought to be under the same conditions as myself and others who were considered conditional voters. Between 4 and 5 o'clock P. M. John J. Lynn observed, "well I suppose there are no more voters, I suppose we may close the Polls". We then considered the election over. There was two kinds of paper used for Tickets.

John F. Kempee

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 10th. day of Jan y. 1838

John Hayes Ch. Jus.

George McKey being duly sworn deposeth and sayeth. He voted at an election held on the 10 of this

for County Officers, in Victoria. He voted on yellow or pink paper
no objection was made to his vote; it was the Ticket as originally
handed him by Mr Moody. Geo. McKey.
Sworn to and subscribed to before me this 16th. day of Jan. 1838
John Hayes Ch. Jus.

J. J. Linn
relative to
Contested
Election

Victoria Jan. 18. 1838. To the Hon.
Sec'y. of State, Sir, I hope you will excuse the liberty I take in
addressing you, these few lines to you on a subject that is of our own
local matter as respects our country organization, and election for Officers
the election has terminated like many others to the disappointment
of a few office hunters, and as I understand are determined to make some
false and unfair statements to you in order to have a new election
The election was held in accordance to previous notice from the Chief
Justice and every opportunity being shewn to the defeated party, resulted
in their total defeat after allowing them some votes that were not
legal. I do hope that your honor will not pay any attention
to any statements to enable the disorganizers to keep us from conduct-
ing our business of the public affairs, and I must say as a man of
honor that some of those who may petition for a new election do not
want the laws of our country to go into effect, as it would put a stop
to their present mode of obtaining some property that belongs to honest
persons. As I have stated before the election was conducted fair
and honest, and the Chief Justice has made his returns and the
persons duly elected he has given the necessary certificates, and
I do vouch for the correctness of his proceedings, and I am
proud to say he is invulnerable in his honesty and moral
rectitude. I wrote to you by Gen. Dunlap and would be
happy of hearing from you by return of Mail.
With every solicitude for your health and
prosperity I remain with due respect your very humble Sept.
John J. Linn.

C. Mason
wishing
certain Laws

War Department Jan. 18. 1838. N. Amory
Chf. Clerk Dept. of State, The Secretary of War desires that your Dept.
should furnish him with a Copy of all Laws relating to the duties of this
Dept. as early as practicable after their passage and approval.
Respectfully your obt Servt. Chas. Mason, Ch. C.

C. Austin
wishing
certain Laws

La Grange, Jan. 19. 1838. Doctr. Guion
Sec'y. of State, Dear Sir After my respects &c I wish to inform you
that we have not a Copy of the Law ~~laying~~ the direct Tax in this
County. Therefore we wish you to send us a Copy of that Law
and also a Supplement to that Law, passed at the last session of
Congress. It appears to me that there was a Law passed
last June, regulating the amount to be collected for licences to

be paid by Tavern Keepers, retailers of Spirits, goods wares and Merchandize, which Law ought to be published, in order that they may be enforced.

It is probable those Laws have been published in the Telegraph, but by some cause or other, we fail to obtain the papers, or all of the numbers, in consequence of which our Officers are at a loss how to proceed. I am yours with profound respect. J. S. Lester.

A. Rabb
Election Return

La Grange, County of Fayette, Jan. 20. 1838

Hon. R. A. Irion Secretary of State, Sir, At an election held on the 13th day of this month the following Officers were elected to wit.

Sheriff.	Coroner	Clk Dist. Court.	Clk County Court
John Breeding	Socrates Darling.	Jerome B. Alexander.	David S. Kornegay.

1st Militia District. Justices of Peace.	2nd Militia District Justices of Peace	3rd Militia District Justices of Peace
James Robinson	Chris.r Fitzgerald	Bernard Sherrer
John Lewis	Andrew Graham.	Sam.l Alexander.
Constable	Constable	Constable
James H. Manning.	Henry S. Thayer.	x x x x x x x x x

I am aware that Commissions for Cj. Officers are sometimes forwarded only to the Justices and Sheriff but observing that the constitution 6th. Art. 7th. Sec. requires the President to commission all Officers of the Republic, I have forwarded a return of all. Respectfully your ob't Serv.t A. Rabb. Chf. Justice

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J. Birdsall, relative to Offices to be Com.d

Opinion of Attorney General.

Hon. R. A. Irion Sec.y of State, Sir, The best opinion I am able to form of the design of the Constitution as to the class or classes of Officers to be commissioned by the Executive is, that the general direction in Sec. 7. Art 6th. embraces those Officers only whose official jurisdiction extends over the Republic are who are properly "Officers of the Republic" as the officers of State the Cheif Justice and District Judges &c, and who derive their appointments directly from the executive authority.

To the latter limitation the constitution makes two exceptions viz. Sheriffs and Justices, the constitutional requirement of commissions for these however, necessarily implies that as to all others of like character elective and local, commissions are not to issue. The reason of this exception in favor of Sheriff and Justices was probably that as they are the more immediate and special conservators of the Public Peace and their official action executive and summary it was important to clothe them more formally with their offices, and moreover place in their hands an evidence of their authority which could at at all times be exhibited to those concerned. The matter is not entirely clear but it is the best opinion I am able to form. Yrs. J. Birdsall Att. G.

R. H. Foote resignation as Chf Justice

San Augustine, Jan. 20. 1838. Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec'y of State, Sir, The rapid decline of my health together with other circumstances of a private nature makes it a duty which I owe to myself and this community to tender to his excellency the President through you my resignation of Chief Justice of the County of San Augustine. With considerations of esteem I am Sir your very obt Serv't.

Robt H. Foote.

H. Millard recom'ing Dr Brassier for Medical Censor

Beaumont, Jan. 21. 1838. Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec'y. of State. Sir, Seeing the List published in the Telegraph of the Medical Censors for each County for the Republic of Texas I perceive there has been none appointed for the Senatorial District of Jasper, and Jefferson, therefore I beg leave to recommend Dr. William Brassier, who has made our County his place of residence for that office. Dr. Brassier is a man of science in his profession and otherwise, and a perfect gentleman in every respect, I have been acquainted with him for many years in Louisiana where he was universally respected both as a gentleman and Physician. He is a regular Graduate and has his diploma and other certificates of his degrees. Anything you can do for him will be thankfully reciprocated.

Yours

Henry Millard.

P.S. Please forward me the 2nd Vol. of the Acts of Congress as soon as practicable, I am much in want of them in my official acts.

H. M.

M. Martin Election Returns

Republic of Texas, County of Fort Bend.

The following is a correct return of the election held in the several precincts of said County on the 25th. day of Jan. 1838 with the exception of the upper precinct east of the Brazos where owing to the neglect of the presiding Officer the election was not held until the 2nd day of February to wit. Lower Precinct east of the Brazos For Justice of the Peace C. C. Dyer. For Constable, D. L. Kyphendall

Middle Precinct east of Brazos For Justice of Peace. Miles M. Battle Esq. For Constable James Peevyhouse.

Upper Precinct east of Brazos For Justice of Peace. Wm. Walker, Esq. For Constable Robert D. McMulty.

Lower Precinct west of Brazos For Justice of Peace, Aaron Dodd. For Constable xxxxxxxxx

Middle Precinct west of Brazos For Justice of Peace. Ignatius S. Johnson For Constable Alex. F. Johnson.

Upper Precinct west of Brazos For Justice of Peace Samuel Flint. For Constable E. G. Rector.

I certify the foregoing a true Copy and correct Statement taken from the several election returns for Justice of the Peace and Constable in the different precincts in the County of Fort Bend as the said returns were made to me by the several presiding Officers.

Given under my hand at my office in the City of Richmond this 3rd day March 1838.

Loyly Martin C. J.

J. Birdsall.
Relative to Contested Election.

Attorney Genl's Office, Houston Jan. 23. 1838

Hon. Sec'y. of State. Sir, In answer to the memorial of Mr J. Wright on the subject of his election as County Clerk of the County of Victoria referred to the Attorney General, I would state, I am not aware of any Law, which either confers the power, or imposes the duty upon your Department, of settling contested Elections. If it has been the practice heretofore to interfere in cases of this kind, I would advise its exercise in the present case. The County of Victoria I presume is one of those Counties coming under the denomination of depopulated Counties which are accepted from the immediate operation of the Law regulating Elections, passed at the late Session of Congress, and therefore left to former usages.

The Election was manifestly conducted with great irregularity, and from evidence produced, ought to be opened and subjected to another Convass.

If on the other hand your Department has not been in the habit of settling contests of this kind, I would not advise an interference in this case.

The authority issuing the certificate of Election, might with as much propriety, and perhaps more, be called in to interfere. But the legitimate authority, in all cases of the kind except those otherwise specially provided for, is in the Courts.

They are bound to entertain the question and in the ordinary exercise of the official duties, in the form of a Petition from the party aggrieved, against the incumbent unjustly holding the office.

It is tried as a question of private grievance and right. This is the practice in England and the U. States, and is the better mode to adopt in the present case, unless formed usage has been different.

Very Respectfully Your Obt Servt.

John Birdsall Atty. Gen.

A. M. Levy
accepting appoint. as Medical Censor

Matagorda Jan. 25. 1838. Hon. Sec'y. of State. Dear Sir, Commission dated 28th. Dec. 1837. and constituting me Medical Censor for this Senatorial District has been received and hereby acknowledged. I shall enter upon the discharge of the duties appropriate to the Office forthwith. With high regard I am your Excellency's most obt Servt.

A. M. Levy

Brazoria Jan. 26. 1838. Hon. R. A. Irion
Sec. of State, Sir, Enclosed I send you my Bond of the oath which by the Land Law I am required to give.
I am Sir truly your obt. Serv.
Wm. H. Hunt. Ch. Surv.

B. D. McClure
Chief
Election
Return

Republic of Texas, County of Gonzales, Jan 27th 1838, Agreeably to an election order issued by me "B. D. McClure Chief Justice of the County of Gonzales, for County Officers on the 3rd of January 1838 which said Election was to be held on the 24th of the same month in conformity with an act of the same session the returns made to me from the precincts of the aforesaid County having been carefully compared find the votes to be as follows viz.

Nathan Cordey District Clerk 5. Ezekiel Williams County Clerk. 14. J. Campbell, Ch. Clk. 12. Joel Patton 9. Claiborne Stennett for Sheriff 27. A. G. Neil 4 do. Theodore S. Lee. do. 2. French Smith do. 2. Dan'l M. Pood for Coroner 10. John G. King do. 1.

Precinct of Gonzales. I. Day Justice of Peace 7. Lyman Pease do 5. I. S. Stump Constable. 9. T. S. Nicholls do. 3.

Guero Precinct. George Blair Justice of Peace 10.

La Vacca Precinct. Adam Zumalt Justice of Peace 8. W. H. H. Baldridge Constable 8.

I. B. D. McClure Chief Justice of the County of Gonzales, do hereby certify that the following persons are duly and constitutionally elected viz.

Nathan Cordey District Clerk. Ezekiel Williams County Clerk. Claiborne Stennett Sheriff. Daniel M. Pood Coroner. I. Day Justice of Peace for the Precinct of Gonzales. I. S. Stump Constable for the Precinct of Gonzales. Adam Zumalt Justice of Peace for the precinct of La Vacca. William H. H. Baldridge Constable for the precinct of La Vacca. George Blair Justice of Peace for the precinct of Guero. Given under my hand this day and date as above written.

B. D. McClure Chf. Jus.

W. S. Underwood
Resignation
as Dist
atty

Nacogdoches, Jan. 29. 1838. To His Excy Sam. Houston, Sir, You will have the goodness to accept this my resignation of the Office of District Attorney for the 1st Judicial District of Texas, And at the same time to receive my sincere thanks for the kindness and confidence exhibited towards me, in appointing me to the office I have now the honor to resign. With sentiments of profound consideration I have the honor to be your Excellency's

most obt. Servant. W. L. Underwood.

C. Chapline
Soliciting
the Office
of Chf Justice

San Augustine Jan. 29. 1838. Hon. Sec'y. of State, The office of Chief Justice of this County having become vacant, by the resignation of R. H. Foote Esq. and many of my friends having requested me to accept of the same, I take the liberty of addressing you on the subject and requesting your good offices with his excellency the President in my favor. Your honor is acquainted with my capabilities for the office and having been for some time Chief Justice of Jefferson County, from which place I have returned about six months since, I think you will feel no objections in recommending me to the Executive. I have the honor of remaining your most obt Serv't. Chichester Chaplin

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Rid.
(Will him)

Liberty Jan. 28th. 1838. Hon. Sec'y of State
Sir, After my respects to you, I will inform you that I am well and family, hoping when this comes to hand will find you well, Sir, I am sorry that the Commission that you gave me for Mr Andrew Smith has got misplaced so that I cannot find it, you will do me and him the favor to let him have another, in doing of it you will do me a favor,
Yours with respect Joseph Grigsby

W. L. Underwood
relative to his
resignation
as Dist.
atty.

Nacogdoches, Jan. 31. 1838 His Excellcy
Sam. Houston, Dear Sir, You will before this have received my resignation of the office of District Attorney to which you so kindly appointed me. And it may have somewhat excited your surprise that I held it for so short a time. I can not now enter fully into an explanation of the reasons which induced me so soon to resign it. Certain it is that no indifference to the honor which your confidence conferred and no disinclination to discharge the humblest trust which my country might impose, formed any part of the reasons by which my course was directed.

It will soon become your duty to select among your legal acquaintances in this District some gentleman to succeed me. My acquaintance with my Brothers of the Bar is as yet but limited. But I will ask leave to suggest as peculiarly worthy of your confidence and the appointment my friend Mr R. H. Pinney of this place. You are perhaps better acquainted with him than myself, and can bear me witness that his tallents, integrity and character eminently qualify him for the office and entitle him to the appointment.

Pardon me for the freedom I have taken. And rank me always in the number of your friends.

With high consideration your obt Servt

W. L. Under

Buckell

Attorney Generals Office Feb. 4. 1838

Hon. John Forsyth Sec. of State, Sir I have compared the Laws of Congress of the 12th. & 18th. Sessions Sess. 1837 and 18th. Decr. The first authorized the Secretary of State, to have published 500 Copies of the Journals of Congress, and 2000 Copies of the Colonization Laws of Mexico and Coahuila and Texas, the Acts decrees and resolutions of the Consultation, the ordinances and decrees of the Provisional Council and of the Convention, and the Acts and joint resolutions of that Congress.

This Law directs the publication to be made at the expense of the Government, but makes no specific provision for meeting the expense.

The Law of 18th reiterates the direction of the first as to the Journals and Acts of the Congress embracing those of the present Congress, and appropriates a sum not exceeding Six thousand Dollars of the promissory notes of the Government for their publication, requiring security to be taken from the Contractor.

The concluding section of this Law repeals all other Laws for the printing of the Acts and Journals of Congress.

The whole subject matter of this Law, is obviously the printing of the Acts and Journals of Congress. It does not assume to make any provisions in regard to the other printing authorized by the Act of June.

The repealing clause is also expressly limited to the publication of the Acts and Journals of Congress.

The publication of the Laws and enactments embraced in the Act of June, independent of the Journals and Statutes of Congress, is a measure of deep interest to the Country, and I cannot suppose for a moment they intended by the Law of Decr. to evoke their action on that subject, Certain I am they have not said so by that Act.

Both Laws to be construed together, and the whole publication to be effected if possible.

With great respect

John Birdsall Atty Gen.

A Habb

Notifying Certain Laws

La Grange, Fayette County Feb. 5. 1838

Hon. Sec. of State, Dear Sir I have lately received two numbers of the Telegraphs containing several Laws requiring the different County Officers to carry certain Laws into effect. Those Laws referred to, to wit, "a Law providing for the assessment and collection of a direct Tax". "a Law requiring the Clerks of the County Courts to issue a licence to retailers of spirituous liquors", I have not received or seen. The Law respecting retailers is much wanted here. I need not mention the impossibility of acting under those Laws before they are received. Yours

A. Habb. Chf. Jud.

W. P. Scott — Election Return

Brazoria Feb. 6. 1838 Hon. Sec. of State

Sir I do hereby certify that on the second Monday of January last, an election was held at the different precincts of Brazoria County in pursuance to that effect, due notice given by me for Clerk of the District Court of said County to fill the vacancy occasioned by my resignation when the following was the result as reported to me from the different precincts viz. Thomas Blackwell 185. Felix C. Castonnet 89.

I also certify that the said Blackwell has given Bond and Security and taken the oath prescribed by Law.

Yours W. P. Scott C. I.

L. C. Cunningham — Election Return

Republic of Texas, County of Bastrop,

To all whom these presents shall or may concern. Greeting. Know ye That at an election held in the Town of Bastrop on Monday the fifth day of February A.D. 1838 for one Justice of the Peace for the second Militia District, County of Bastrop, Thomas H. Mays was duly elected to that Office..

Given under my hand and private seal for want of Seal of office this 6th. day of February A.D. 1838.

L. C. Cunningham C. I.

W. H. Patton — Wanting certain Laws

City of San Antonio Feb. 7. 1838 Hon. Sec. of State, Dear Sir There is nothing new here except that we have had the Comanches in town some days and I am sorry to state that they left before Gen. Johnson arrived and I think there was little done with them. They appeared to be satisfied, I do not believe the Mexicans bother us this Spring. I have had two interviews with the Priest of this place and he has given me more satisfaction than any one that I have met with. You will please do me the favour of having a Copy of the Act incorporating the City of San Antonio and other Towns forwarded to me at this place and command me in anything you wish.

W. H. Patton.

Election return for Senator for San Augustin County

Republic of Texas, County of San Augustin

In pursuance of a proclamation from the President, an election was held in the County of San Augustin on Monday the 5th. February for Senator. When the following votes were given in.

For Greer 147.
For Hibbitt 48.

We therefore, W. R. D. Word, and Walter H. Payne, Associate Justices of the County Court (the Chief Justice having resigned) do hereby certify that John A. Greer was duly elected as will appear by the enclosed returns. (now [illegible])

Given under our hands this 8th day of Feby A. D. 1838.

W. R. D. Word
W. H. Payne } Asso. Jus.

Election Return for Nacogdoches County.

Return of the election held at the School House, in Williams' Settlement County of Nacogdoches on Saturday the 10th. day of February 1838 for the purpose of electing Two Justices of the Peace and One Constable.

For Justice of the Peace, Wm. Elliott 18. Farris Montgomery 16.
For Constable, Alexander Jordon 15.

We the undersigned Judges of the election held at the School House in Williams' Settlement, do hereby certify that the above statement of votes is true and correct. Given under our hands this the 10th. day of February 1838. George May
Alston Ferguson. George W. Rutter. Judges.

Wm. H. Wharton Resignation as Senator

Eagle Island, Feb. 10. 1838. To His Excellency Sam. Houston, President &c of the Republic of Texas, or in his absence the hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Sir, I hereby tender you my resignation as Senator for the County of Brazoria, and hope that a writ of election will issue promptly as there is no time to loose. Yours &c Wm. H. Wharton.

Grad.

Liberty, Feb. 10. 1838 Hon. R. A. Irion Sec.y of State, Sir, I herewith transmit you the oaths of office and Bonds of the Officers of the Board of Land Commissioners in and for the County of Liberty, that are by Law required to be filed in your Office. Respectfully yours Geo. W. Miles C. B. L. C.

L. C. Cunningham and Election Return.

Republic of Texas, County of Bastrop. To all to whom these presents shall come Greeting. Know ye that agreeable to the returns made to my office of an election held on the first Monday in February inst. in the first Militia District County of Bastrop for a Justice of the Peace to fill the vacancy of David F. Owen removed. John B. Walters was duly elected to said Office. Given under my hand and private Seal for want of Seal of office this 12th. day of February 1838 and of the Independence of the Republic the second year. L. C. Cunningham Chf. Jus.

G. Borden Rend.

Port of Galveston Feb. 15. 1838. Hon R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Sir, Agreeably to the regulations of the Custom House in the United States I herewith transmit to your Department the passengers list of the Quarter ending 30th. Decr. 1837. I have the honor to be your obt. Servt. G. Borden Jr. Colr.

G. A. Pattillo communicating the death of His Excellency Sam. Houston

Jefferson County, Feb. 15. 1838. To Sir I have just received a note

Hon Sam from Judge Mott of Jasper County requesting to inform your excellency of the death of the Hon. Samuel S. Lewis, Representative of that County, I am yours with respect and esteem G. A. Pattillo

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Jasper, Feb. 1838 Hon. Sec'y of State, Sir, Enclosed I send you the oaths of Office of the Board of Land Commissioners for this County, and also of the Clerk and County Surveyor, together with the County Surveyor's Bond, which Bond has been recorded in the County Clerk's office of the County. Yours Very Respectfy G. W. Smyth.

Rec'd

Feb. 20. 1838 Texana, Jackson County, Hon. Secretary of State, Sir, I herewith transmit to you the Bonds of John S. Menefee Clerk of the Board of Land Commissioners for the County of Jackson, also the oath of Thomas Simmons, Surveyor of said County, the receipt of which you will please acknowledge if you think it necessary.
Very Respectfully your ob Serv't Patrick Usher Chf. Jus.

Rec'd

F. T. Gaines relative to the appointment of Tax assessor

Sabine County, Feb. 20th. 1838. His Exc'y Sam. Houston, Sir, The former Chief Justice of this County omitted to appoint an assessor of Taxes as was required by Law. Some doubts exists as to my making the appointment on any other day than the one designated by Law. You will please instruct me on that subject. I hope my great anxiety to see the wheels of Government move smoothly under your administration will be an apology for my intrusion on your time and patience. We are without Laws precedents or any thing else in this part of the Republic.
Very Respectfully Your ob Sr. Francis T. Gaines.

W. Martin relative to a Representative in Congress from Fort Bend County and Co.

City of Richmond, Feb. 18. 1838. To His Excellency Sam. Houston, Sir, The people of the County of Fort Bend are of opinion that under the Law which allows to each at least One Representative in Congress, they are entitled to a Member to represent them in the April Sessions; they have expected your Excellency's Proclamation to that effect, but seeing nothing of the kind, and the time approaching, many of them have solicited me as Chief Justice to order and hold the election under the belief that the subject had escaped your recollection

Having some doubts myself as to the propriety of the course proposed by the people, I have deemed it my duty to address you and lay the subject before you for your consideration, and to ask your Excellency to have the goodness to answer this communication, and advise me under the circumstances what is the proper course to pursue.

As nothing short of somethin from under your hand will satisfy the people on that import

subject. With high respect and consideration I am your excellency's most obt Serv.

Wm. Martin Chf. Jus.

A. Russell
delivers to
Representation
in Congress
from two
Counties.

Attorney Generals Office, Houston Feb. 21. 1838 Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State: Sir, The tenth section of the 1st Article of the Constitution requires the executive to issue writs of election to fill vacancies that may happen in either house. This is the only Constitutional provision bearing upon the subject of the annexed communication.

The right acquired by the organization of a new County to add a member to the Congress, cannot well be considered a vacancy. This term is applicable to case where the representation has been filled, and from some cause becomes vacant, and is thus used in the Constitution.

There is no provision made for filling the representation of the new Counties until the annual election on the first Monday in September of each year.

Very Respectfully your Obt Serv.

John Birdsall Att. Gen.

Feb. 22. 1838.

A. Ind.

City of Houston, Hon. J. Birdsall Attorney General, Sir You are hereby requested to act as Secretary of State, during the absence of Dr. Irion from the seat of Government. Respy. Your Obt Serv.

Sam. Houston.

Wm Clark
Resignation
as a mem-
ber in
Congress

Milam, Sabine County, Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec. of State, Dear Sir Circumstances beyond my control renders it necessary for me to resign my seat in the Congress of this Republic. I beg leave through you to make it known to the President at as early a day as practicable in order that measures may be adopted to have this County represented at the Spring Session.

Accept Sir my highest esteem Wm Clarke.

M. Farley
Election
Return.

County of Milam, I the undersigned Chief Justice of the County aforesaid, certify that on the first Monday of February instt. Samuel A. Chears was duly elected Sheriff vice T. A. Graves resigned. And William W. Bell Justice of the Peace of the 1st Captains District. February 25th 1838.

M. Farley Chf. Jus.

Election
Return.

Nacogdoches, Feb. 28. 1838. We the undersigned Judges and Clerks certify, That there was an election for Justice of the Peace and Constable held this day at the house of L. Chavallier and the result was as above stated.

For Justice of the Peace. R. H. Pinney 74.

J. H. Hyde 50. Geo. Pollitz 17. W. Newell 6. For Constable J. F. Parker 9.
Stephen Collins, J. P. Thomas Judges.
George W. Payne T. L. McIver Clerks.

G. W. Mallible.
relative to the illegality of Union Sec. of State, Sir, Your letter of the 16th. inst. has been duly rec
Certain Officers and the decision which your honor has made, has given rise for further
& protest questions, in regard to the acts of our County Courts on the legality of his actions
of Clerks under the administration of the officers which your honor decided were never
officers of Jefferson County. The question appeared plainly and decisively
answered or decided by your honor. to me that the officers in question
had no right to exercise the authorities of Justice of the Peace in Jefferson
County, consequently I have been compelled to protest against their
acts, as officers of Jefferson County, until they should be legally elected,
by the people of said County in obedience to the Proclamation of the
President. It is a painful thing for me sir to trouble your
honor with such matters. But believing the Executive Head to be
the proper authority to settle such matters, I have once more been com-
pelled to call on the Executive, and in so doing will endeavour to state
all the facts and the questions arising out of the same.

In the first place our Chief Justice
H. Millard Esq. was sworn into office by John C. Read whose commission
was for Liberty County; consequently I have challenged the said Chief Justices
acts as being illegal until he was duly sworn by a constitutional officer of this
County, which was done by myself on the 2nd day of this month, as he did
on that day call on me to swear him into office of Chief Justice of
Jefferson County. Therefore I contend that he was not lawfully author-
ized to act as such, until that time he contended that he was and appear
to be determined to make all his Acts valid and as many acts of importance
to the people of this County have been done. It is not only desired by my-
self but by many others that, that question be decided by your honor.

I may be wrong in my opinion
and if so will cheerfully yield, as no man in this County can be
more desirous to see a well organized Judiciary than myself. I
have no personal feelings on the subject and only wish to have a
proper organized Court, and not have matters of that kind to go on in
so loose and careless a manner.

Another and second question. Judge
Millard wrote to C. West Esq not many days before the first day of
Jan'y. last, to hold an election at his the said Wests' house for
a Justice of the Peace to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation
of R. Green Esq. Mr West told I suppose as many of the people as he
saw, in the short period of time, that there would be an election at
the stated time for the aforesaid purpose, which was not near ten
days. The result was that only 7 or 8 votes heard of the election or
attended the same. The election went on and Clark Beach was
elected. I therefore protest his election, because Judge Mill-
was not duly authorized at that time in my view to issue a-

such order, not being sworn into office, and secondly because there was not legal and lawfull notice given by advertising the same. Consequently the people were not appriced of the same as they should have been. Sorry, having concluded the most important questions and protest of Mr Beaches election I must earnestly request of your honor the earliest answer possible, as some important cases in County affairs have been continued. The letting the Jail and reorganizing the County Court for the purpose of receiving general satisfaction from the Executive head, there appears to be a question among the new Officers elect. Whether they have to elect the associate Justices from among the whole body of Justices of the County, or whether I, myself ought to be considered as one of the associate Justices or not, as I was at the meeting of the Justices of the Peace, and the only Constitutional Justice in the County, except Mr Beach be considered legally elected. That is a matter I have much feeling on but for the satisfaction of others your views on the subject will be thankfully received. Very respectfully your obt Servt.

G. A. Pattillo. C. J.

County of Goliad, March 1. 1838. Hon. R. A. Irion Sec of State, Sir In obedience to the requisition of the Land Law, Sec. 4th. I transmit to you the oaths of Office in this County as taken and subscribed by them. Your obt Servt. A. Neil. Clk

A. Millard
Election
Returns

Beaumont, Jefferson County, March 3rd 1838, Hon. R. A. Irion, Sir In pursuance of the Presidents proclamation vacating the offices of Justice of the Peace and Constables from the precinct of Beaumont in the County of Jefferson, being that part of said County detached from Liberty and attached to Jefferson I have ordered the elections for said officers and the following is the returns made me of an election held on the 21st of February. And also from the different precincts for District Clerk or Clerk of the District Court in place of Robt E. Bothe resigned.

In the precinct of Beaumont, John C. Read got 21 votes. Wm H. Irion got 12 votes. Thomas H. Lewis got 9 votes for Magistrates. Therefore John C. Read and Wm H. Irion Esqs. were declared duly elected and sworn into office. For Constable Wm H. Hodges got 21 votes, and declared duly elected and sworn into office. For Clerk of the District Court John C. Read got 20 votes in the Precinct of Beaumont and 4 votes in the precinct of Jefferson and H. B. Littlefield 4 votes. Therefore John C. Read was duly elected and sworn into office his Bond and oath of office is herewith enclosed. Respectfully your obt. Servt.

Henry Millard C. J.

Wm L Murdir
Election
Returns

We the managers of an election held at Goliad on Monday the 4th of March to elect the County

Officers, certify that the following is a true statement of the election.
For Justice of Peace. Antonio Vasques. 3. Andrew Neil 3. For Coroner, I. Vasques. 2. For Sheriff Robt. G. Saunders 3. For County Clerk. P. I. Wyche 2. W. P. Patterson 1.

Wm. Bromley }
E. Vasques } Judges.

Hon. Sec'y of State, You will see by the above returns that there were given but Three Votes, and the election for County Officers incomplete, there being barely Officers elected sufficient to organize the County. The Rancheros neglected to attend the election and the majority of the citizens of the Town having been in the County only a short time I believe was the cause of so few votes.

Being anxious to organize the County Court you will please send on the Commissions of the Officers elected.

Respectfully, Wm. L. Hunter C. I.

T. B. Johnson — Resignation of Thos Bennett as Chf Justice

San Felipe Austin County, March 4. 1838

Hon. R. A. Irion Sec of State, Sir, Enclosed you have the resignation of the Hon. Thos. Bennett Chief Justice of this County.

You also will receive likewise the Petition for the appointment of a successor which you will please have considered and if consistent have the person so recommended appointed to fill the vacancy. The Petition by accident got one corner of it torn off which you will perceive; which was done last evening and desirous that the Petition should accompany the resignation we have not time to see all the persons that have signed it.

The part torn off I hereby transcribe for which is a Copy of the part so torn off is interlined.

T. Benton Johnson

T. A. Moody Election Return, —

County of Victoria, June 6. 1838 This is to certify that an election was held in the Town of Victoria on the 5th day of March 1838 for Justice of the Peace for the County of Victoria when the following persons were duly elected.

John P. Kemper
David Balfour.

All of which appears on the Poll Sheet of said election. Now on record in this County.

T. A. Moody C. C.

Election Return

Returns of an election held this day Mar. 13th. (1838) at the Forks of the Road between the Angelina River & Neches River, for Two Justices of the Peace and one Constable. At which election Josiah Thompson and Wy. Lacy presided as Judges.

The following is a List of the number of Votes received by the respective Candidates at the abovementioned el.
For Magistrate Wm. Roark 30. Wm. Sims 30. Wm. Boyd 1.

G. Allen 1. For Constable. Edward Fitzgerald 28. Henry Jeffrey 5.
Samuel C. Box 1.

Josiah Thompson }
W. M. Lacy -- } Judges.

J. A. Moody
relative to
recording of Union, Sec.y of State, Sir, As there will be many Deeds and other documents presented at this Office for Record in the Castilian language I
Castilian beg to be informed in what manner such papers are to be received and
language whether it is the duty of the Recorder to have them translated, or the
individuals presenting them. I am Sir your obt. St. J. A. Moody C.C.

Opinion of Attorney General

Under the existing Laws for recording, the documents must be recorded in the language in which they are written There is no provision for the translation.

John Birdsall Att. Gen.

F. Slaughter
Election
Returns.

County of Robertson, I, Francis Slaughter Chief Justice of the County Court of the County aforesaid do hereby certify, That at an election held at the different precincts of said County on the 10th. inst. agreeably to the returns made to me Robert Henry and Hanson Hardy were duly elected Justices of the Peace for the first company of Militia of said County. And, That John D. Smith was elected Sheriff of said County. And, William C. Watson District Clerk.

Given under my hand and private Seal having no Seal of office this 20th. day of March 1838.

Fr.s Slaughter C. J.

N. Townsend
requesting
leave of
absence

Consulate of Texas, New Orleans March 22. 1838 Hon. R. A. Union Sec. of State Sir Yours of the 5th. Jan. last covering a Joint Resolution of both houses of Congress in relation to Consuls was received in due time by the hand of Dr. A. Smith and is the only communication I have received from your department.

After this great lapse of time I have finally obtained a copy of Elliotts American Diplomatic Code, by sending to New York specially for it. It is nearly out of print.

As I have business of the utmost importance of a public as well as private and individual character which imperiously requires my presence and personal attention I avail myself of the present opportunity to respectfully and earnestly solicit your permission to absent myself from my post 30 or 40 days for the purpose of visiting Texas.

An early reply is greatly desired and will confer a lasting obligation on, with due consideration

an respect, your very obt. Servt. Math. Townsend.

F. J. Gaines Election Return - Sabine County, I, Francis T. Gaines, Chief Justice in said County, do certify that James W. Williams was duly elected a Justice of the Peace in the Sabine District on the 12th day of March inst. to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of William Walker Esq.

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and private seal there being no public seal this 30th. day of March A. D. 1838.

Francis T. Gaines C. J.

Pat. Usher Bond

Texana March 31. 1838 Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec. of State, Sir, Enclosed please find Patrick Usher's Bond as President of the Board of Land Commissioners; Thomas Simons' Bond as Surveyor, and the oaths of the Clerk and associate Land Commissioners for the County of Jackson. Your obt Servt. J. S. Menefee Clk. C. C.

Election Return - County of Nacogdoches, April 2nd 1838 By a writ for an election held at Thomas Smith's by an order of the Judge of said County, we do certify that Thomas Hawks and Zachariah Stinnett were duly elected by a majority of the qualified voters of Captain Johnson's company, a Justice of the Peace, and W. Caldwell was elected Constable of said beat. Given under our hands and seal the day and date above written.

Clerks E. D. Hawks, J. C. Gallin.
Judges. Saml. Gillean. Jas. Farris. B. C. Johnson

Jas. Hamilton Junr. acceptance of the appointment of Consul

Charleston April 7. 1838. Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec. of State, Sir, A Letter addressed to James D. Hamilton covering an appointment as Consul of the Republic of Texas, has come to me through the Post Office from you. My name being however "James Hamilton Jr. I do not feel authorized to appropriate the same to myself and therefore beg leave to return the commission enclosed. If as I am led to believe from the connection which my Father Genl. James Hamilton has had with your Government, the appointment is intended for myself I take this opportunity to thank the Republic of Texas for the honor conferred upon me and to express my readiness to accept the same.

I have the honor to remain Sir very respectfully your obedient Servant J. Hamilton Junr.

Geo. Dobson, appointment as Consul -

Mobile April 10. 1838. Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Sir, I have the honor of acknowledging the receipt of your Letter of 20th. ultimo enclosing me a Commission signed by His Excellency the President of Texas appointing me Consul for that Gov. for this Port and in the envelope there was also contained an offi

Copy of the Act relative to Consuls.

I feel highly flattered by the compliment paid me by the Gov.t of Texas, a Republic in whose advancement I have always taken a lively interest, and whilst I pledge myself to fulfil the duties of the office to the best of my abilities I beg you to convey to His Excellency the President the assurance of my gratitude for his mark of confidence and consideration.

I have enclosed to the Secretary of State at Washington the Commission and the Certified Copy of the Consular Act requesting an Exquatur. When I receive an answer from the Hon. Sec. of State I shall immediately to you the result. With great respect I have the honor to be Sir your Obt Servt. Geo. Dobson

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J.W.J. Niles
Proposition for printing

Houston April 12. 1838. Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State; Sir By an advertisement from Departt. of State I perceive propositions are to be received for printing. I will do any amount wanted on the following Terms.

For composition pr. page Pica, on entire New Type $3.00

Press work for first 250 impressions of eight pages including good paper $10.00

Each additional 250. $5.00.

Folding and Stitching pr. ream for 100. — $1.00.

Will do from 50. to 72 pages pr. week according to the number of Copies wanted.

The work shall be dry pressed and the whole executed in a workmanlike manner.

Your obt Ser.t. J.W.J. Niles

Wm. D.

Port of Galveston April 16. 1838

Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State. Dear Sir You would greatly oblige me by letting me have one Ream Ruled Folio Post paper (of the coarser quality) for the purpose of printing blank Mercantile entries If you can spare it please deliver to John P. Borden. Your most Obt Serv.t G. Borden Jr.

Sam Houston
Relative to the boundary

City of Houston April 17. 1838

To the Senate of the Republic of Texas, In compliance with a joint bicameral resolution of the Senate of yesterday's date authorizing a call for U.S. and information concerning the boundary line between the U. States and Texas - this Republic, I transmit the accompanying report from the Secretary of State.

Sam. Houston

B. B. Sturges
Relative to the Boundary Line between this & Texas

Resolved that the Secretary of State, be requested to communicate to this House any information in possession of that Department relative to the subject of the Boundary line between this Government and that of the U. States.

The above is a true copy of a Resolution passed by the House of Representatives on the 20th April 1838.

Benjn B. Sturges C.C.H. of R.

Sam Houston
Appointing J. H. Mooney

April 20. 1838 The Hon. Secretary of State will please to make out the appointment of John H. Mooney as Chief Justice of the County of Austin.

Sam. Houston.

The nomination will be sent in with the general list of appointments from the State Department.

Election for Officers under the Land Law

House of Representatives April 28. 1838

The two houses having united for that purpose proceeded as follows by joint vote to elect officers to fill vacancies that have occurred under the Land Law.

For the County of San Augustine

Chichester Chaplin, President of the Board and Wm R. D. Ward associate Commissioner.

For the County of Bexar Hamilton Hall was elected associate Commissioner.

For the County of San Patricio

Benjamin Odlem was elected President of the Board.

For the County of Nacogdoches

Jas. H. Starr was elected President of the Board and John R. Hubert was elected associate Commissioner.

For the County of Jefferson

O. H. Delano was elected Surveyor.

For the County of Washington

W. W. Arrington was elected associate Commissioner.

For the County of Matagorda

Charles Howard was elected President of the Board.

For the County of Houston

Reichoffer was elected President of the Board.

For the County of Gonzales

Adam Zumalt was elected associate Commissioner

For the County of Jackson

Darwin M. Stapp was elected associate Commissioner.

For the County of Milam.

P. H. Conaway and Jesse Webb Senr were elected associate Commissioners.

For the County of Sabine

William Clark Jr. was elected President of the Board.

For the County of Jasper James Armstrong was elected President of the Board and Henry W. Suddith associate Commissioner.

For the County of Fannin, Saml. McFarland was elected associate Commissioner.

For the County of Fort Bend, Daniel Perry was elected President of the Board and J. F. Payne and Andrew J. Bonds were elected associate Commissioners.

Other Counties were passed over for the present.

The foregoing is truly copied from the Journals of the House. Test. James D. Owen. Ass.t Clk

Jos. Rowe, Speaker of the H. of R. The above extract has been compared with the Journals of the Senate and found correct. W. F. Gray Sec. of Senate. S. H. Everitt, Pres.t pro tem Senate

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N. Townsend
requesting
leave of
absence

Consulate of Texas, New Orleans, April 28th. 1838 Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Circumstances and events have transpired subsequent to my last communication to your Department and prior to the receipt of your highly esteemed favours of the 11th and 12th inst. which it inexpedient and unadvisable for me to visit Texas this season and the object of this communication is to ask a still greater favour than the one just granted. It is that I may be permitted to absent myself from this place in July and remain absent until November for the purpose of visiting New York with my family and placing my children at school. I am induced to ask this indulgence inasmuch (in the event of my request being granted) I shall be away only during the sickly season, when very little business is transacted and my services are seldom required and should you conceive it not incompatible with the public service to grant my request I will leave a representative fully qualified who will attend faithfully to the discharge of any duties that might devolve upon me during my absence and at the same time you will confer an important and weighty obligation on My dear Sir your very obt. Servt

Nath. Townsend.

A. Grimes
Election
Returns -

Montgomery April 30. 1838 Hon. R. A. Irion. Sec. of State, Sir In the organization of the County of Montgomery the following named persons were duly elected, To wit. Abram Zuber Clerk of the District Court. Gwynn Morrison Clerk of the County and Probate Courts. Joshua Robbins Sheriff. Daniel Quinby Coroner. Danl. T. Dunham Forester Robinson Fillory M. Crabb Luther M. T. Plummer

Martin P. Clark and George Galbraith Justices of the Peace in and for said County all of whom have been duly qualified and are acting in their official capacities respectively.

Jesse Grimes C.J. Mont. C.J.

A. Briscoe
Elected
Returns

Harrisburg County, I Andrew Briscoe Chief Justice of the County do hereby certify that Wm. G. Evans and John Shea were elected Justices of the Peace of this County and took the oath of office on the sixth day of November last to hold their offices to the regular election on the first Monday of February 1839.

Also, that James McGee was at the same time elected Constable, and at the same time gave Bond and took the oath of office as prescribed by Law.

I have reported this once before to wit, in the month of December last to the Department of State which I suppose has been mislaid.

Given under my hand at Houston this first day of May AD. 1838

A. Briscoe C.J.

F. T. Gaines
Elected
Returns

Sabine County, I Francis T. Gaines Chief Justice in said County do certify that agreeable to the returns of an election held on the twenty eighth day of April at the house of Martin D. White in Bear Creek precinct in said County to elect a Justice of the Peace in place of Martin D. White resigned Thomas H. W. Forsyth received a majority of votes.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and private seal there being no public seal this first day of May AD. 1838.

Francis T. Gaines C. J.

Relative to
Appointment
of Dist
Attorneys

Columbia Dec. 19. 1836. His Excellency Sam. Houston, we the undersigned believing the election of District Attorneys by joint ballot of both Houses of Congress to be unconstitutional and that it is clearly a power guaranteed to the Executive to nominate and appoint the said Officers would respectfully suggest that your Excellency nominate the individuals chosen aforesaid for the different Districts.

Recom
J. P. Pulsifer
to the Office
of Chief
Justice

Jefferson County Aug. 18. 1837. His Excellency Sam. Houston Sir, In consequence of the resignation of the Hon. C. Chaplin late Chief Justice of Jefferson County we the undersigned beg leave to recommend Joseph Perkins Pulsifer Esq to fill that important Office. Mr Pulsifer has been a resident this County for more than two years, and from his known integrity abilities and attention to business we take a particular pleasure in recommending him to fill that Office. For other the name

J.

Recom^ding
J. Harvey
to the Office
of Notary
Public

His Excellency Sam. Houston, The undersigned Citizens of the Republic of Texas and of the Town and County of Matagorda would respectfully represent that they are informed of the passage of a Law by Congress authorizing the appointment of Notaries Public.

Your Petitioners anxious to have the appointment conferred upon one in every manner qualified to perform the duties of the Office and believing that your Excellency would be pleased to receive the recommendations of the Citizens of this place take pleasure in presenting to your consideration our respected fellow citizen Thomas Harvey.

We believe that his integrity and ability are spotless and unquestionable and that his appointment would meet with the universal and unqualified approbation of the Citizens of this County. With the highest respects we are your Excellency's Obt Servts

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A. Horton.
Recom^ding
R. C. McDaniel
for Register
San Augustine
Co

San Augustine Aug. 20. 1837. To His Excellency Sam. Houston, Sir We would very respectfully recommend to your Excellency Robert C. McDaniel Esq as a fit person for the office of Register of the department of San Augustine.

Mr McDaniel is an old citizen of the County and a gentleman whom we have implicit confidence in his integrity and ability, and should it please your Excellency to appoint him to the office you may rest assured that he will discharge the duties of his office strictly with honor to himself and to the County.

R. C. McDaniel
A. Horton

Recom^ding
S. D. Sevras
to the Office
of Chief
Justice

Aug. 25. 1837. To His Excellency Sam. Houston, Sir We citizens of the County of Matagorda having heard with deep regret of the resignation of our friend Silas Dinsmore Esq. of the Justiceship of this County and being most anxious that a person should be appointed to supply the vacancy so soon as practicable in order to facilitate our business. would most respectfully recommend the appointment of our fellow citizen Sinclair D. Sevras, to that responsible Office believing him to possess that fairness, independence, zeal and industry which will ensure us impartial Justice and which will also tend greatly to aid our commercial transactions.

We trust Sir that this subject may receive your early attention as we are now hourly suffering from the want of an incumbent to this Office.

With the highest respect we are your fellow citizens and friends.

Recom'ding M. P. Clark to the Office of Chief Justice

Jefferson Sept. 6. 1837. To His Sam. Houston

We the undersigned Citizens of the Republic of Texas and County of Jefferson respectfully represent that the office of Chief Justice of said County has become vacant by the removal of our late Chief Justice Chichester Chapman out of the County we therefore respectfully but earnestly request that your Excellency will nominate M. P. Clark for that office. A Gentleman in whom we can confide and a man we believe every way well qualified to discharge the duties of that office.

Recom'ding G. Clark to the Office of Chief Justice

Jan. 24. 1838. To His Excellency Sam. Houston, The Petition of the undersigned citizens of Colorado County respectfully represent to your Excellency that there is a vacancy in the office of Chief Justice for this County occasioned by the election of Wm Menefee the late incumbent, and that this vacancy has existed for some time detrimental to the interest of the County. And by the Constitution and laws the appointment of such officers belongs to the Executive during the recess of Congress; and believing that our fellow citizen George Clark is well qualified to fill said office with credit to himself and usefulness to the County we respectfully represent him to your Excellency and pray that you may be pleased to confer that appointment on him and your Petitioners will ever pray.

Illegal or protested Election.

Gonzales Court House, Jan. 29. 1837.

To His Excellency Sam. Houston, The Petition of a portion of the citizens of the County of Gonzales, respectfully represent, That in pursuance of writs of election emanating from the Chief Justice of this County the citizens met on the 24th inst. to organize and elect their Civil Officers, Your Petitioners repaired to the Polls fully expecting to be allowed the privileges guaranteed to them by the Constitution and Laws viz in having the right for voting for officers who were to exercise Jurisdiction over them, but the right of suffrage was denied us; a right inestimable to us, a prohibitance only to designing men. We considered that the right we contended for was fully explained in the Sixth Section of the General Provisions of the Constitution and third Section "Schedule" of the same instrument. Your Petitioners finding that they could not obtain what we conceived our rights, resolved to hold a separate Poll and state our grievances to your Excellency. We proceeded to appoint separate Judges and Clerks who were instructed to take the votes of men who had resided in the Republic six months and who were actual citizens of this County, An account of this election is respectfully submitted. Your Petitioners do not pretend to assert that their course was strictly legal, but unhesitatingly assert that ours was more so than the one held under the color of Law, the substance of which did not possess, the extraordinary course was pursued of taking the votes of men, who did not live in the County when ours were denied who resided here with our families. At the Precinct "Guero" one C. Stinnett was appointed to hold the election, who thinking the office of Sheriff was more profitable appointed a man whom

do not know, to reside in that State which he and at La Baca determining at which juncture, the Judges at the Supr. Court were not there.

Knowing it is your Excellency's pleasure to have a correct administration of laws, and confident you will not suffer them to be violated in the exercise of your trust of Pardon of Bad Prisoners to be violated with impunity we respectfully submit our recommendations to good discretion and respectfully call to your election or notification of the choice of the inspectors of the Capital and good Petitioned will accompany.

Recommendation
Hon. J. Lizard

His Excellency Gov. Houston. We the undersigned good Petitioners citizens of Galveston County, respectfully beg leave to recommend Hon. Alfred T. Yancey, a gentleman well qualified to fill the office of Judge of the County Court in said County to discharge the duties of Judge of the County Court in said County the incumbent resigning, and we believe will have good Petitioners under great Situation.

Wm. H. Sheppard
relative to
the Capture
of Mexican
Vessels
Lt. Commdr.
Little
Pond

Navy Department, City of Houston May 1. 1838

To Hon. R. A. Irion Sec'y of State, Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th. of April, requesting information relative to the capture of certain Mexican vessels containing English goods, and captured by the Texian men of war Zavalla, Sonnelore and Brutus; in reply to which I beg leave to refer you to the accompanying reports of the officers commanding said vessels as the only sure means of obtaining such information as you desire. I would remark however that the "Josefa" immediately after the capture was ordered to the Port of Matagorda where she was regularly condemned and sold as a legal prize from the Government of Mexico.

The Department is in possession of no evidence relative to the "little Pond" alluded to in the letter of Lord Palmerston to our Agent in England, Gen. I. P. Henderson.

In the investigation of certain charges preferred against one of our Naval Officers it appears that some articles of Merchandise were taken from an abandoned wreck supposed to be the property of English subjects, for which said Officer was near being Court Martialed and received a reprimand from the Department, although conclusively shown from the testimony produced that the vessel was entirely abandoned and left to the mercy of the waves. The "Josefa" was a Mexican vessel beyond all doubt, but it is utterly impossible for the Department by any process of investigating whatever to ascertain whether or not the goods on board were English as no papers to that effect have ever been produced.

In conclusion I must repeat that the Department is in possession of no information relative to the commission of any unjustifiable act upon the Commerce of England with one exception that of the Schooner Eliza Russel for which we may (as yet) not have made indemnification.

but it is to the head of this Department, and should be to every citizen of Texas a source of much pride and exultation, that the Executive in his usual prompt and decisive manner removed dishonorably from service both the Officers concerned in her capture, and which it is confidently hoped will be received as some little assurance of our amicable disposition towards that Government.

The affidavit of Mauro M. Carpio in which he states that an English vessel supposed to be the Eloia Russel was taken under a Mexican Flag can be disproved if necessary. I have the honor to be Very Respectfully Your Ob.t Serv.t Wm. M. Shepard
Sec. of Navy.

Clad. Port of Galveston, May 1. 1838 Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Sir Please find accompanying the passenger list for the quarter ending 31st. March last. This document was prepared by the 3rd. April but was mislaid.
I have the honor to be your Ob.t Serv.t G. Borden Collector

Clad. Washington May 3. 1838 Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Sir I received two packages in pamphlet form containing the Acts of Congress; they are incomplete; those received beginning at the 159 page leaving 158 pages of the previous Acts not received. I presume this has been so sent by mistake. You will therefore address me how to dispose of them.
Very Respectfully yours. Jno. P. Coles. C. Justice

F. Slaughter Election Return

County of Robertson, I certify that the following named gentlemen were duly elected by the legal voters of said County of Robertson, Justices of the Peace in and for said County on the 17th. day of April 1838. viz John A. Hill. James Taylor. Thomas Young. and John F. Galloway were duly elected by the legal voters of said County Justices of the Peace in and for said County on the 31st. day of April 1838. Given under my hand this 4th. May 1838.
Francis Slaughter C. J.

Confirmation of Nominations

Senate, Secret Session May 2nd 1838
Ordered, That the Senate advise and consent to the confirmation of the following Officers, to the offices to which they were respectively appointed during the recess of Congress as communicated in the message of his Excellency the President of the Republic of the 25th. ult. viz. Henry A. Williams Consul for the Port of Baltimore. U. S. A. John F. Cortes Consul for the Port of Machitoches. John C. Hodge Consul for the Port of Philadelphia. James H. Hamilton Jr. Consul for the Port of Charleston. George Dobson Consul for the Port of Mobile. John H. Mooney

Chief Justice of the County of Austin. Napoleon B. Thompson District Attorney for the first Judicial District.

Ordered that the injunction of secrecy so far as regards the confirmation of the above appointments be removed. Extract from Secret Journal. W. F. Gray. Sec.

Ratification of Convention

In Senate of Texas, Secret Session, Friday May 5. 1838 Ordered, That the Senate advise and consent to the Texas ratification of the Convention entered into on the 14th day of April last between the Hon. R. A. Irion Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas, and the Hon. Alex de la Baneda Chargé d'Affaires of His Excellency the United States of Mexico acting on behalf of their respective Governments to terminate the reclamations of the Government of the United States, for the capture seizure and detention of the Texas Packet and Cuanos, and for injuries suffered by citizens of the United States on board of the Packet.

Ordered, That the injunction of secrecy in relation to the confirmation of the convention aforesaid be removed. Extract from Secret Session. W. F. Gray. Sec.

Texas

In Senate, March 28. 1838. Secret Session, Resolved, That the President be respectfully requested to lay before the Senate the correspondence, and any information he may have in regard to the convention of indemnification between this Government and the United States entered into April 11th. last and now before the Senate. Extract from the minutes. W. F. Gray Sec.

H. Haughton Election

County of Robertson, May 6. 1838

Return - Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Sir I enclose to you the certificate of the election of Justice of the Peace for the county of Robertson, you will please award the proper commission as soon as convenient. Yours &c Thomas Haughton. C.J.

Election of Officers under Land Law, 7th. 1838. The two houses having united for the purpose proceeded also by joint vote to elect officers to fill the remaining vacancies that Medical have occurred under the Land Law. Also the vacancies in the Censors several Boards of Medical Censors To wit.

For the County of Brazoria, Wm. Ehle was elected associate Commissioner.

For the County of Austin, Isaac L. Hill was elected President of the Board and James Allen associate Commissioned.

For the County of Fairfield James G. Hutchinson was elected President of the Board and

and Thomas Wm. Ward and John Woodruff were elected associate Commissioners.

For the County of Colorado William Daniel was elected President of the Board and William B. Duez and William R. Hunt were elected associate Commissioners.

For the County of Montgomery, Hugh McGuffin was elected associate Commissioner.

For the County of Goliad, William L. Hunter was elected President of the Board.

For the County of Bastrop Washington Anderson was elected Clerk of the Board.

Richard S. Davis was elected Medical Censor for the County of San Augustine. Joab S. Baker for the County of Shelby. Wm. W. Duch for the Counties of Jasper and Jefferson. Charles F. M. Vancey for the Counties of Bastrop Gonzales and Fayette.

The foregoing is truly copied from the Journal of the House. Test. James D. Owen Ast. Clerk H.R.
Jos. Rowe, Speaker of the H. of R.

The above extract has been compared with the Journal of the Senate and found correct. W.F. Gray. Sec. Sen.
S. H. Everitt. President pro. tem. Senate.

Read

Harrisburg County. Hon. R. A. Irion Sec'y of State, I shall be absent from the County for six days during which time John Shea Esq an associate Justice of the County Court will act as Judge of Probates and Notary Public for this County.

Given under my hand at Houston May 7th. 1838. A. Briscoe. C. Justice

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J. H. Barnard, Bond of the District Clerk

Richmond May 10. 1838 Hon. R. A. Irion Sec'y of State, Sir Enclosed I forward you the Bond of the District Clerk, which has been approved by the County Court at its last Session and which is required by Law to be deposited in the office of Secretary of State. With respect Sir I remain your obt Serv't. Joseph H. Barnard County Clerk Fort Bend.

J. A. Moody Surveyors Bond

Victoria May 15th. 1838 Hon. Sec'y of State, Sir I herewith transmit you the Surveyor's Bond for the County of Victoria. Resp'y your ob't Serv't. J. A. Moody County Clerk.

C. S. Taylor Election Return

We the Judges, Clerks and Returning Officers of an election held at the Forks of the Road at the House of Martin Lacy in the County of Nacogdoches, do certify that the is a true list of the election abovenamed for Two Justices of Pe-

and one Constable. William S. Box and William Johnson are elected Justices of the Peace. William B. Blackburn is duly elected Constable. This the 12th. May 1838. Judges Leonard Jones. John Roark Clerks H. D. Palmer. I. T. Childers. Returning Officer Saml. C. Box.

Nacogdoches May 14. 1838 Returned under oath by John Roark. Chas. S. Taylor C. I. Nacogdoches County.

Sam Houston.
Letter relative to the Navy

Executive Department, Columbia Octo. 26th. 1836. Messrs T. Toby & Brother, Gentn. I enclose you Letters addressed to Capt. Jn. Brown and Capt. Wm. A. Hurd.

You will please forward them to your sub-agent at New York, unless you are aware that those Gentlemen have changed their position since our last advices. It is very desirable to have our little Naval force once more at home and to confer with the Officers in command prior to the adoption of new measures or the formation of new plans. Your obt. Servant

Signed Sam. Houston

P. W. Grayson
relative to annexation of Texas to U. S.

Washington Dec. 7. 1837. R. A. Irion Secy of State, &c &c. At length, my mind having arrived at something like a definite conclusion on the subject of annexation I am prepared to give it, just as it is without reserve, or shading of any doubtful kind. This it is — that there is no solid foundation on which to build a hope that the measure can now be carried.

Without going into all the particulars that might be descanted on in relation to the matter, I will just observe that both parties here are afraid to move in the matter for fear of losing popularity in the North — in so critical and lonely a condition are they with respect to each other. I have indeed the strongest reason to believe that some of the most prominent men of both sides of politics here are heartily in favor of annexation, and would at once advocate the measure openly and freely but for the scare crow, to which I have alluded, the displeasure of the North. This is the substance of what I have to say on the subject — that the determination is to give the question the go-by for this session until matters can be adjusted, touching the future ascendancy of the two great belligerants — the Loco Foco's and Whigs.

My intention is therefore to set out on my return to Texas, as soon as Gen. Hunt arrives from North Carolina where he went a few weeks ago on important business of a private character. I have reason to look for him within a week or two.

I must not forget to mention that Mr Van Buren in his message informs Congress that the matters of grievance on the part of this Government with —

Mexico, remained as yet wholly unadjusted — that the fair promises which had been made by the latter in July last in answer to the special demand then made by the former had resulted at last in a response which only related to 2 or 3 private claims, no mention having been made of the various others of that character or of any of those of a public character. He leaves it to Congress to devise the mode the time and manner of redress, saying that he has exhausted all the executive powers which were applicable to the case.

From this you might suppose there would be a sort of outbreak between this Government and Mexico pretty soon. My own opinion is that the probability is against such a result — for the cause assigned, in regard to the paralysis of the Government touching the first mentioned subject. Nothing is to be risked in the way of popularity at this pinch of the game. A few days however will determine something more precise on this last subject.

prospects good to obtain a loan —

On the subject of the loan, which is now our chief and only hopes as I conceive, you will have learnt by letters from Mr Burnley that there is a good prospect of effecting it through Mr Biddle, on condition of the Laws being altered so as to make the Bonds more available to the purchasers. These things will all be explained by Col. Love who is no doubt at Houston by this time. That gentleman having left Louisville two weeks ago for Texas, purely to attend to this very business, under the instructions of Mr Burnley.

Let me urge upon you my Dr Sir the great importance of effecting the proposed alterations with the least possible delay. Say to Gov. Smith that now is the time for him to exert himself to put a little money in his coffers, and get rid of his beggarly account of empty boxes. And through you let me assure him and the President of the untiring exertions of Mr Burnley through the whole Summer, dancing attendance upon purse proud capitalists arguing with and exhorting them to come out like men, and do the thing which would be as good for them as for us. What gives me greater confidence that the loan will be effected is this circumstance that a certain political influence will soon be exerted here to get us the money in order more certainly we put off the question of annexation, which as I have said is a big bear.

I confess I feel mortified that I have not received a single line from Texas since I left, I had expected you would have written to me occassionly but in this it seems I have been disappointed. I see by the papers that Gen. Houston was very ill — his life despaired of. Can this be? I have consoled myself with the idea that as the most of what we see in the papers is false this may be so also.

My interest in regard to the Land Law remains unabated. I observe it has been under free discussion. God send it may come out something honest solid and good — for upon that our all depends, whatever impatient speculators may say to the contrary. As I shall write once more before leaving here I shall here conclude desiring you to give my respects to the President who I insist is still alive. Gov. Smith, Col Bee, Collinsworth

Nepe and for yourself believe me truly yours. P. M. Blagrave.
P.S. Nothing as yet from Henderson - at which I am a little surprised.

Election of Public Printer & Officers & Judiciary & Land Commr.

House of Representatives May 14th. 1838

The two Houses having united for that purpose proceeded as follows by joint vote to elect a public Printer, and to elect Officers to fill vacancies that have occurred in the office of Chief Justice of Counties and also in the several boards of Land Commissioners.

Messrs Hall & Co. were elected Public Printers.

For the County of Orleans Williamson. Daniel was elected Chief Justice.

For the County of Austin Arthur H. Morris was elected Chief Justice.

Weaton Brewer was duly elected with of the board of Land Commissioners for Orleans County.

Martin Carter was duly elected President of the Board of Land Commissioners for the County of Harrisburgh.

Lieut. Gov. B. Sturges. Chf. Clk. H. R. W. F. Gray Sec. of Senate. Joseph Rowe Speaker House of Representatives. Mirabeau B. Lamar President of Senate.

Sprague relative to the Conduct of Townsend in New Orleans

New Orleans May 10th. 1838.

My dear Old Friend. I am glad and sorry both in writing to you, glad to hear of your prosperity and telling you that I share it, and rejoice that it is so after all your misfortunes. It is gratifying to know that you are independent in this world, good and at rest — and sorry that this my first letter is to complain of an Officer of the Texian Government — I mean Nathaniel Townsend the Texian Consul for this place.

I have always understood that it was the duty of an accredited Agent of one Government within the bounds of another at all times and under all circumstances to sustain the dignity and credit of the Government that he represents by all lawful and honorable means in his power and to advance in like manner the interests of the citizens of that Government which has delegated to him the power to represent those citizens in a foreign country. It is to him that the citizen who may be in difficulty and distress, is to look for succour and support. It is to this very purpose and none other that a Consular Agent is appointed. But it would seem that Mr. Townsend does not view his duties in this light. Judging from his acts one would infer that he considered the appointment of Consul was only made for his private emoluments, inasmuch as he has been actively and extensively engaged in buying up Texas money and evidences of debt against the Texian Government — dealing in this way it is evidently his interest to get them as low as possible, and consequently the more

depressed the credit of your Government the better for his speculation, here his duties as Consul and interest as a Broker and Shaver does and it is needless I presume to say which is to be preferred by him the credit and dignity of your Government or his separate interest. I have seen Mr Torrendell myself in his Consular Office buy Texas Star Money within one month past at 50 pr. cto. discount, thus converting the place where your Government is represented into a Shaving Shop to Shave the citizens of Texas. Very little information can be obtained from him, and that which he imparts is as apt to be erroneous as otherwise, either from ignorance of the true state of things and of his duties, or if not ignorant of what he ought to know, from design to mislead, in either case, he is unfit to hold the office he now encumbers. I have made the foregoing communication in all freedom to you that you may use your influence to apply a proper remedy to what is really a great grievance here and a dead weight upon the credit of Texas securities. Excuse the freedom I have taken in meddling in your Offices but I could not do less, having deeply sympathized with you in your struggle, and now interested in Texas property, and anxious that she should as soon as possible take the high stand amongst the nations that she is destined to do. I cannot see aught that in the least mistakes against her credit or honor without feeling keenly on the subject and uttering what I feel. Lasting health, happiness and prosperity is the wish of your Old Friend S. Sprague

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J. Collinsworth
relative to
Brig Pocket

Brazoria Nov. 8. 1837 Hon. Sec. of State

Dear Sir I have carefully examined all the papers in regard to the condemnation of the Brig Pocket. There was at the time of her condemnation no regular docket of the District Court. And the consequence is that it is all in the loose and regular papers on file in the Clerks Office. That a decree was made and intended to be entered there is no doubt, and I presume such proof can easily be produced as will authorize the District Judge at the next term of the Court to enter the decree on the regular minutes nunc pro tunc.

Mr P. C. Jack the representative from this County I discover was council for the Captors and can probably satisfy you on this subject. Yours &c J. Collinsworth

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J. M. J. Riley
relative to
Stationary

New Orleans, Jan. 1. 1838. Hon. Sec. of State, Dear Sir Our joint anticipation with regard to a currency Note are not to be realized, I can procure any quantity for 75 cts on the $1. I must buy the rapid, let the sacrifice be ever so much and shall rely on your helping me out of the matter. I shall ship the rapid to the Department of State to your care and with you would store it with Messrs Allen. I do this to avoid duties on the passed if there be any. Please remember me to Dr Stanley & friends and receive for yourself the considerations of high respect and esteem with which I subscribe myself, Dear Sir Your obt. and very obt. Servant J. W. J. Riley

W.B. Dawes
relative to
Elections
Returns
& Vacant
Offices

Town of Columbus, Colorado County, May 20th. 1838. Hon. Sec'y of State, Sir, I being the only associate Judge now in the County of Colorado, take the responsibility upon myself of writing all letters and packages directed to the Chief Justice of this County.

In a letter directed from the Department of State, directed to the Chief Justice of aforesaid County, requesting him to forward electoral returns of said County. Which the honorable Department must be well aware that we have been destitute of a Chief Justice ever since July 1837 though I flatter myself that at the as we have one appointed that those requisitions will be promptly attended to, and in consequence of the creation of the Chief Justice of said County the offices of the County are nearly all vacated, for we have but two Justices of Peace and County Court Clerk and Sheriff and one Constable, are all the County officers that we have in the County. I very respectfully remain yours &c W. B. Dawes.

M.C. Dunn.
relative to
Claim of Sam. Houston,
Wm R. B. Speight

Nacodoches La May 21. 1838. His Exc'y Dear Sir you will allow me to address you a few lines in behalf of a man who by his correct and gentlemanly deportment has won my confidence and deeply interested me for his welfare, it is Mr Wm R. D. Speight for whose relief a petition will shortly be presented to your Excellency signed by a large number of the most respectable citizens of Eastern Texas.

Shortly after the unfortunate occurrence Mr Speight came to this place when I became acquainted with him and have had an opportunity of observing his deportment and truly I never knew a man whom I would sooner take for an honest industrious useful and peaceable citizen. With sentiments of the highest regard I remain your excellency's most obt St. M. C. Dunn Jr

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N. Townsend
relative to
intestates
estates
&c &c

Texian Consulate, New Orleans May 21. 1838 Hon. Sec'y of State, Sir, Herewith I transmit you duplicate of No 6 and accompanying document, which was forwarded your department early in January and which has not been noticed in any of your subsequent communications; the Agent here is very importunate and requested me to call your attention to the subject and desired an early reply.

The enclosed accounts of A. Wm Herman which is closed and Erastus A Duncan on which a ballance of $7. remains in my hands are I believe you will find correct: altho' I am unable to send vouchers as it did, not occur to me the necessity of taking duplicate receipts and not having the diplomatic Code I was unable fully to ascertain my duty in relation to intestates estates. The former died at the Franklin Infirmary and the latter on board the Texian schooner Hayliger, Thos. Bridges, Master on her voyage from Matagorda to this Port last Dec'r. I have very recently ascertained that

Andrew Devereaux died at the Charity Hospital last August intestate and indebted for sundry expenses during his last illness, and he left a title for a quarter of a league of Land in Texas, half of which he had previously alienated. I have advertised the remainder for sale on the 11th of June, next to pay said claims.

I trust the Law authorizing an augmentation of the issue of promissory Notes will not be carried into effect as I am fully persuaded it will materially shake if not entirely destroy all confidence in our ultimate redemption by our Gov.t Our paper was evidently on the ascendant in this market until the arrival of the Packet Columbia, when a very material decline ensued and very few will buy it at any rate. With due consideration and respect I am Your very Obt Serv.t Mathew Townsend.

R. C. Trimble
Relative to Oath of Office

San Antonio May 9th 1838 Ro. A. Irion

Dear Sir I took the oath of Office in Houston last fall and the officer neglected to return the same to you, and I thought it would not be amiss to have it done here and forward the same so as the Law might be fulfilled and complied with. You will find it enclosed. With due reverence I remain yours &c. R. C. Trimble

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A. Pullman
Relative to the organization of a Colony

New York May 21. 1838 To the Right honorable John Birdsall Sec. of State. Sir Concerning the answer to my letter received through the kindness of your honor for which I beg leave to tender my most humble acknowledgments I take the liberty to state that I consider it to convey but a part of the desired information. Therefore to bring the matter to a speedy close I have drawn up the enclosed articles* of agreement, subject of course to such alterations and amendments as may be required by your constitution and as are compatible with common justice and equity soliciting a candid perusal for the same. It only remains for me to make a few additional remarks. It has long been a favorite idea of mine to settle in Texas, as I conceive the most glorious days of political existence to be those of a republic in its infancy, where all outward strife has subsided, and party bias has not yet developed itself. Now I offered my services to your Government as I have some influence more particularly across the Atlantic and my simple word would induce at least 50 families to come out instanter to join the Colony. I think it is needless for me to observe that the safest guarantee for the performance of the settlement is my personal interest. If now you should sustain my proposition I expect an (amended) copy of the enclosed articles duly authenticated to be returned to me. I do not insist upon any particular remuneration, but if you should hereafter deem my exertions worthy of your acknowledgement it will be left to your discretion altogether.

I am with the most profound respect your honors most humble and obedient Servant A. Pullman
195 Division Street

* See page [illegible]

C. S. Taylor
Election
Returns

For Justice of Peace, R. F. Whitaker 24 votes, J. Hamilton 23 votes
R. H. Whitaker 20 votes. For Constable J. C. Cravhan 31 votes.

This is to certify that we the undersigned Judges of an Election held at Elijah Anderson's House in Coeph. Ro. W. Smith's beat for Two Justices of the Peace and one Constable, do certify that the above is a true statement of the number of votes given in at the present election. Given under our hands and seals this May 26th. 1838.

Robert W. Smith L. Knight, Daniel Weeks Judges. R. C. Watkins, Robert Cummings, Clerks.

Returned under oath by R. W. Smith
Chas. S. Taylor C. J. Macogdoches Co.

S. Houston
Elections
returns &c

Montgomery County May 30. 1838.

Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Dear Sir Your communication of the 5th from some cause did not reach me until yesterday.

The County of Montgomery was organized as early as practicable after receiving the proclamation of the President on that subject. One of the Justices elect having been outside absent from the country the return of his qualifications was not received until the April Term of the Probate Court, when I immediately made return of all the County Officers, with the exception of Constables, to the Department of State which I hope you have received, but for fear it has not reached you I have sent you another which I have to do from memory being at home sixteen miles from the County Clerks office.

Abram Fuller Clerk of the District Court Gwynn Morrison Clerk of the County Court, Joshua Cobbins Sheriff Daniel Quinby Coroner. For the precinct of Oreica D. Dunham and Forester Robinson Justices of the Peace, and Peter Tumbleson Constable. Precinct of Lake Creek Martin P. Clark and George Galbraith Justices of the Peace. And William Taylor Constable. Precinct of San Jacinto Hillor M. Crabb and Luther M. Plummer Justices of the Peace and Constable.

Our old friend Sam. has gained much credit with the thinking portion of our citizens by some of his late official acts. Had he concurred with a majority of the members of Congress we should soon have had ___ for a circulating medium to overflowing in our country. They also gave him some applause for his course with regard to the removal of the seat of Government. Ruin is ruin, and he has obtained almost as great applause for saving his country from insolvency as from the sword of extermination.

I have been presented with the 7th No. of the National Banner. I enclose $5. to solicit a further acquaintance and much fear your friendship with the trouble of introducing it to the editor and acquainting him of the object of

disposition. He will direct to Mr Griffin's Store via Montgomery, and paid the Government dues. I have had Mr Amory's Deed recorded and paid the Government dues. I have retained the Deed with the expectation of visiting your City sometime this spring, when I could deliver it myself according to instructions. I shall also give it and pay the Taxes the present year.

Receive assurances of my sincere regard

Sable Gabriel

New Orleans, May 30. 1838. Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Sir, The letter addressed to the Hon. J. Pinkney Henderson, received under cover of yours of 20th inst. has been forwarded in conformity with your instructions, to the care of the Hon. John Woodward, Texian Consul for New York.

Should you desire to have any communications forwarded with particular despatch, I would recommend that they be put in smaller packages, as no package weighing over half an ounce can be sent by the express Mail. Very respectfully your ob't Serv't. Sam. Ricker Jr.

Had

J. S. Lester relative to direct tax &c

La Grange, June 2nd 1838 Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Sir, After my respects &c, this is to inform you that we are trying to arrange, preparatory for the collection of the direct Taxes, and are somewhat at a loss for want of a knowledge of the Law on that subject. Therefore I wish the supplement to that Law as passed the last session of Congress to be published in the Banner as early as practicable in order that we may comply with the requisitions of the same.

In compliance with the above you will confer a special favor on your sincere friend, J. S. Lester

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A. Jones relative to Com.ssion for J. H. Money as Chf Justice

San Felipe de Austin, June 3rd 1838 Hon. R. A. Irion, Sir, John H. Money's Commission for Chief Justice for the County of Austin has not come to hand, and the inhabitants are labouring under much inconvenience. If it has been forwarded it has met with miscarriage and you will please renew it — otherwise please send the original. I am Sir Yours &c Oliver Jones.

J. C. Cunningham Election Return

To, Hon. Sec. of State, Republic of Texas. County of Bastrop, To all to whom these presents shall come or may concern. Greeting. Be it known that at an election held in the first Militia District County of Bastrop on the second day of June 1838 for one Constable to fill the vacancy of William Johnson resigned William Newcomb was duly elected to the office of Constable for the first Militia District, County of Bastrop, agreeable to the returns of said election made to my office by John B. Walters J. P.

Given under my hand and private seal for want of seal of office this 4th. day of June A.D. 1838

L. C. Cunningham C. J. C. of B.

A. Brisco
Appointing, contrary to State Law,

Houston, June 8th. 1838 Hon. R. A. Irion
I leave the County today to be absent several days during my absence John Mac Coy an intimate friend of the Chief Justice County Court, will have access to the Seals and will act as Judge of Probate Probate and Notary Public for said County during my absence. very respectfully your obt. Servt.
A. Brisco C.C. Hamilton Co.

Election
Returns of
C. Clark

Beaumont, Jefferson County, June 8. 1838
Hon. R. A. Irion, Sir Enclosed you find Judge Wells certificate establishing the election of Clark Beach Esq. for Justice of the Peace, in the place of Preston Mac Coy resigned. There was never a doubt as to the legality of his election, and that the returns were forwarded to your Department, but they must have been lost on the way, as he had not yet received a commission from your office. If you are satisfied of the election please forward the commission at soon as convenient. Respectfully your obt. Serv.
Henry Millard, Chf. Justice Jefferson County

Petition to
appoint
W. Townsend
Chf Justice

To His Excellency Sam. Houston, President of the Republic of Texas, Your petitioner would respectfully represent to your excellency, that this County is without a Chief Justice and has been for some months, and as it is much at the election is now at hand for Presidency and Members to Congress, and as much as it is incumbent to protect the rights of orphans and minors, and to provide for the common good of the County without such an Officer, we would respectfully solicit your excellency to appoint William Townsend a citizen of the Town to fill said Office, and in this act your citizens will ever pray &c. Witness &c. original on file Registered Dec. 1838 [illegible] Recorder [illegible] County [illegible] Seal

Geo. Dobson
Relative to
Consulship

Mobile, June 12. 1838 Hon. R. A. Irion
Sec. of State, Sir, I have the honor to announce to you for the information of his Excellency The President that I have received from the Secretary of State of the United States an Exequatur from the President acknowledging me as Consul of the Republic of Texas for this Port.
May I request the favor of you to furnish me with an Official List of the Ports of entry in Texas and the names of their respective collectors, also the style of the State Seal also Blank forms necessary to be used for entries, clearances, passports &c. With great respect I have the honor to be Sir, your obt. Servt.
Geo. Dobson.

Wm. L. Hunter
Election Return —

Milam June 12th. 1838 Fom. Co. A.

Sir — From the Secretary of State, by some vacancies having occured in Milam in consequence of the resignation of R. T. Saunders and D. Weir and also the disappearance of Allen Lowe who is supposed to have been murdered an election was held on the last Saturday when James Farris was elected a Justice of the Peace. William P. Patterson, Sheriff and Isaac L. Sower County Clerk. Very respectfully your obt. Servant

Wm. L. Hunter C.L. C.A.J.P.

J. A. Hill
Relative to the eligibility of a certain Case —

Franklin Robertson County, June 12. 1838

His Excellency Sam. Houston, Sir Feeling as I ever have done a lasting and heartfelt desire for the welfare of my country and believing that the present crisis in the affairs of our Nation requires the exercise of our best talents in the Council, and having that true regard for confidence in your opinion which becomes the subject of a Republican Government for that of its executive, I hope you will not fail to exercise my boldness, nor fail to reply to me to the query proposed in the following statements of facts.

We have a gentleman in this the Senatorial District of Milam of undoubted integrity talents and patriotism who came to Texas in March 1837 to this District in June '37 remained here some length of time, determined to remove here and settle, made public declaration of the same, purchased lands upon which to settle, having previously disposed of all his possessions east in the United States, he proceeded to the U. S. after his moveable property and returned in October 1837. with the same as settled as contemplated on his return to the United States he refused citizenship. And immediately on his return here in October gave in his poll Tax. and has since permanently remained tilling the soil.

The question upon which we wish your opinion together with that of the Attorney General if convenient, are the foregoing facts sufficient to constitute such an individual constitutionally eligible to a seat in the Senate of the Republic, and further a statement of the grounds upon which — Green from Colorado was refused such seat — whether because he had attained the proper age or on account of non residence if for the latter the grounds upon which it was attempted to be established

By giving us your opinion on the above and sending us that of the Attorney General if convenient you will quench the enquiring thirst of many friends the people of this District generally, because we are united in our enquiries of this subject. I have the honor to be yours with high consideration and respect

John A. Hill.

T. J. Rusk
Relative to the murders

Nacogdoches, June 12. 1838 His Excellency Sam. Houston, Dear Genl. On my arrival at home I found the Billy a Choctaw Indians in a state of confusion in consequence of a young Choctaw man by the name of James Aldrich living near Nacogdoches

by Jamy Aldrich to ye wound in a few days after did die. The Indians came in and I had

having struck one of them on the head with a spade and fractured his skull. The Indian it was supposed would at the time I arrived a talk with them, Aldrich having ran away could not be arrested. I informed (them) that if he returned he would be immediately arrested and tried for the offence, and that in order the better to secure his arrest I would immediately write you, and you would offer a reward to any person who would bring him back so that he might be brought to justice for the offence, with this although much interrupted the Indians seemed satisfied. I then made some presents to the family and relations of the deceased amounting to some sixty odd dollars, which I drew on the Treasurer in favor of I. S. Roberts. I now enclose you a copy of the warrant which I procured to be issued against Aldrich with the return of the Sheriff thereon with a request that you would issue a Proclamation offering a reward for the apprehension of the offender. I would be glad you would send me a manuscript copy of the Proclamation in order that I may shew it to the Indians for their satisfaction. We have no news worthy of your attention. Truly yours

Thomas J. Rusk

Republic of Texas, County of Nacogdoches, Personally appeared before me C. S. Taylor, Chief Justice of the County aforesaid, John M. Dor, who being first duly sworn deposeth and saith that on or about the first day of May 1838 he heard James Aldrich (say) that he had struck Billy a Choctaw Indian who is since dead of the blow given, and that he believes said James Aldrich is guilty of the death of said Indian. Signed John M. Dor. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12th day of June 1838.

Chas. S. Taylor Chf. Justice.

Republic of Texas, County of Nacogdoches To the Sheriff of the County aforesaid. Whereas John M. Dor, of the same County hath this day made information and complaint upon oath before me Chas. S. Taylor, Chief Justice of the County aforesaid, That James Aldrich did on or about the first day of May 1838 feloniously strike Billy a Choctaw Indian and of which striking the said Indian has since died, this is therefore to command you to take the said James Aldrich and bring him before me to answer the charge herein for the felonious murder of said Indian, and to be dealt with according to Law. Herein fail not. Given under my hand and seal this 12th. day of June 1838. Chas. S. Taylor, Chf Justice of the County.

Received in Office, Nacogdoches, 12th June 1838. David Rusk, Sheriff.

Nacogdoches, June 13th. 1838 I have searched for James Aldrich the defendant and cannot find him in the County. David Rusk, Sheriff.

Republic of Texas, County of Nacog=

dockets, I Chas. S. Taylor Chief Justice of the County do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original warrant together with the return of the Sheriff thereon, and from any best information I believe the said James Aldrich has fled from justice. Given under my hand and seal of Office in the Town of Nacogdoches on this 13th. day of June 1838 Chas. S. Taylor C.J.

C.B. Stewart
Recom. and
B.B. Goodrich
to the Office
of Chf Justice

Montgomery May 30. 1838 Gen. Lam.

Houston Deadley By the late Law of Jurisdiction Congress has provided an extra Notary for each County of the Republic to be appointed by your Excellency. Will you permit us to ask your consideration of the qualifications of Dr. Benjn. B. Goodrich to discharge the duties of a Notary and give respectability to the Office. Mr Shepard and many others, are desirous of his appointment if it meet your approbation. And we would have solicited you to appoint him in a petition of many signatures but for the reason that we believe it would not in this or in any other case influence you in favor of an incompetent person or one unworthy to the trust. And that your personal knowledge of Dr. Goodrich's business capability and integrity would render it unnecessary. Offering to you the assurance of Mr Shepard, and my own strong personal and public regard I am very Respectfully Chas. B. Stewart

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H. Millard
Election
Return =

Beaumonts, June 13. 1838 To Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec. of State, Sir, An election was held at this place on the 12th. inst. after due notice was given by advertisements for one Justice of the Peace, for the precinct of Beaumonts in Jefferson County, in place of Wm. H. Irion Esq. resigned. The resignation of said Irion being handed in and filed in my Office on the 31st. May 1838. And the following is a true Copy of the returns of said election. Received and filed June 12th. 1838 Henry Millard C.J.

For Justice of the Peace. Moses Allen 15 votes. Thos. H. Lewis 12 votes.

Republic of Texas, County of Jefferson We the undersigned Judges and Clerks of the election held in the county of Jefferson on this 12th day of June A.D. 1838 for the election of a Justice of the Peace for the precinct of Beaumont to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Wm. H. Irion Esq. do certify the above and foregoing List of votes to be a true and correct. Given under our hands and seals this day and date above written. Signed Ezekiah Williams, Nathan Burton, Pleasants B. Riggs. Judges. John C. Reid Jr. returning Officer. George W. Martin, James Gibson Clerks.

Therefore the said Moses Allen was declared duly elected, and sworn into office on the 12th day of June A. D. 1838.

Henry Millard
C.J. of Jefferson County.

J. W. Burton
relative to the ed. Hon. R. A. Irion Sec. of State, Respect-
omt. of Sir, We have been looking anxiously for some time for the
commission of our Chief Justice, as we were informed by Raph. Jones
J. H. Money the commission had been issued and sent on. Our business is much
Chf Justice behind and deranged in not having a Chief Justice.

The appointment of J. H. Money gave universal satisfaction, and on many accounts we are desirous for him to be commissioned.

I make no doubt that his commission has been forwarded, yet I have despaired of its ever coming to hand. You would do much for this County by sending his Commission by Mr Punchard, and Doctor it is very important to my interest that the Court should be holden its sessions. Then will you send his Commission by the first opportunity?

J. W. Burton

J. C. Reade
Bond of
County Surveyor

Beaumont, June 14. 1838 Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec. of State, Sir Enclosed is the original Bond given by Cuver, Surveyor H. Delano, as County Surveyor for the County of Nacogdoches which has been recorded in the County Clerks Office.

J. C. Reade

T. Jowett
Bond of
County

Fannin Court House, June 17. 1838
Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec. of State, Sir You will find enclosed the official Surveyor Bond of Daniel Montague as Surveyor for Fannin County.

Sir, I beg leave to represent to your honor that I have not had an opportunity of forwarding this Bond for want of Mail.

Sir, I am with respect your obt. and humble Servant

Thomas Jowett. Clk.

J. A. Moody
relative to
holding an
Election in the
Chf Justice

Victoria June 17. 1838 Hon. R. A. Irion, Sec. of State, Sir I am requested by the undersigned of the enclosed memorial to forward the same to the Secretary of State and request the favor of an answer thereto, stating whether an election can be held during the absence of the Chief Justice of the County, and what officer may legally preside over the same.

Respectfully yours. J. A. Moody

H. M. Gibson
relative to
com. for
Beaumont
Cor. Coroner

Galveston 17th June 1838

The
Hon. Secretary of State. Sir,

I discover that in making out the Commissions for the officers of Galveston County, you have commissioned C. F. Bumline who was elected coroner, to the Office of Justice of the Peace. By referring to the election returns you will find that Beaumont was the individual entitled to that Commission in conjunction with

Woodruff who has received his. The mistake I have no doubt is attributable to great press of business. Enclosed I send you back Burnlins Commission

F. M. Gibson

Chief Justice, Galveston County

Petition relative to the Incorporation of the Town of Victoria

We the undersigned Citizens of Victoria, would most respectfully state that agreeable to an act passed incorporating the City of San Antonio and other Towns, an election was held in Victoria on Tuesday the 6th March '38 when the requisite Municipal officers were duly elected in conformity of said act, and further the board having been organized, the necessary arrangements were made for laying off the town, a part of which has been surveyed and the day appointed for the Public sale, with other Municipal decrees necessary to maintain good order and facilitate the settling of the town tract.

We regret to find that amendments have been made to the foregoing act through the instrumentality of those who cannot be actuated by other than interested motives, as the operation of the amendatory clauses, obviously tend to retard the settling of Victoria by throwing such obstacles in the way as must inevitably postpone for the present all further proceedings. We beg further to state that the first election was held on Tuesday agreeable to an order from his Honor the Chief Justice, in consequence of an election previously ordered for County Officers on Monday.

Your petitioners further state that in consequence of the absence of Judge Hayes, all steps towards holding a new election are prevented, and as we are led to believe, that his honor may proceed to the United States and thereby cause a tedious and injurious delay. We therefore respectfully request that either the justices of the County or any other Civil officer may be ordered to hold the election forthwith.

And as in duty bound will ever pray. Victoria June 17th 1838.

R. Carlile. Thomas Barry. Malcom A. Johnson, John Gerelly, John Keating, John F. Kemper, Joseph Mace, Edward Griffith, John Loftus, James C. Allen Chas A. Clark, Geo. McKee Cowan A Gickey, James C. Edmunson, Thos Kemp, John H. Wood, John T. Dillard S. Denbar, Melton H Hardy, Allen Goffney, John Hoffman, Peter Mahony, Thos Hayes, Sam Reeves, H. H. Hamilton, Wm H Attwell, John Smith J. A. Moody.

J. H. Barnard relative to Officers Bond.

Fort Bend County Richmond 21st June 1838

Sir, Enclosed I forward you the Bonds of the President of the Board of Land Commissioners, and the Surveyor of this County, which the law requires to be filed in your Office after being recorded by the County Clerk.

The Bond of the first Pesdt of Board Land Commrs (Randale Jones) has never been put into my hands

With respect, I remain your Obdt Servt

Joseph H Barnard, County Clerk

The Hon.

A. Sidon, Secty of State

J. Woodward appointing Chas H. Forbes Consul pro tem

To

His Excellency, Genl Sam Houston, President of the Republic of Texas &c

Dear Sir, From the intimations I have received recently from time to time from England on points most intimately connected with during your Republic and from the steps which some of my acquaint

is absent are disposed to apply to any personal representation and assurances I might England make, and in conformity to the motives which have heretofore actuated me on these subjects, I feel myself constrained to visit England in the next Great Western which will sail on 25th Inst, and I shall take an opportunity Two of going to Paris. I take letters to the Mayor of London and to the United States and French Ministers at Paris & London, to the son of Genl La Fayette &c &c. This will cost me some exertion and expense, but still I hope to balance these by valuable advantages to our Common Country, and favorable impressions as to its resources. I have appointed Charles St Forbes Esqr, a gentleman of the bar of this City, and born and brought up in it. His Father an old classmate of mine, for twenty or thirty years back, the Librarian of the old New York City Library, whom perhaps you might have known. Mr Forbes will freely resign at any time by my request, or any intimations from the President of Texas so that the Republic will not suffer in my absence. I shall not remain on the Continent long, and when I return, may endeavor to do myself the pleasure of visiting Texas and imparting to yourself and our friends, whatever interesting may have come within my knowledge abroad.

Accept Genl the assurances of my highest and most cordial esteem. Your Obdt Servt

New York 23d June 1838. John Woodward

Thad. Hon R. A. Irion, Dear Sir

Nacogdoches June 25th 1838

Enclosed is a commission which I have just received from the hand of Genl Douglass. It appears to have been filled in error. I presume my name should have been inserted instead of that which appears on its face

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt Servt
Jas H Starr.

G. W. Hill relative to his Commn as Medical Censor

To Hon R. A. Irion, Sir

Nashville Texas 25 June 1838

I see that I have been appointed by the Hon Congress of this Republic, Medical Censor for the Senatorial District of Milam. I have once sent for my Commission, and received intelligence that it had been sent by mail, it has not reached me, and there are Physicians here who wish to receive or apply for temporary licence, I therefore wish you to forward to me as soon as possible that I may hear applications for the same.

I have the honor to be Yours with high Consideration
G. W. Hill.

W. Martin Election Returns

Republic of Texas. County of Fort Bend.

At an election held at the House of Archa Hodges on the 23d instant for one Justice of Peace for the Middle precinct east of the Brazos, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the removal of Miles Mc Battle from said precinct, said election was presided by John V. Morton high sheriff of the County, when upon examining the returns in presence of the presiding Officer, the following appeared to be ~~the~~ result

Viz, Daniel Perry for Justice of Peace 11 Votes, Ambrose Boles for ditto 9 Votes, Majority in favor of Perry 2 votes.

I certify that Daniel Perry is duly elected Justice of peace for the Middle precinct East of the Brazos in the County of Fort Bend Republic of Texas.

Given under my hand and seal of Office this 26th day of June 1838.

Wyly Martin Chief Justice

L.S.

G. A. Pattillo- Relative to rect of Congress, No 2-

Hon. R. A. Irion,

Jefferson County, Pattillo's P.O. 27 June 1838.

Dear Sir,

Having seen your notification announced in the Telegraph, notifying the officers of the Civil departments, to call on inform you whether they had recd the late No 2 of the acts of Congress, I have to say that I have not, as for my own part, neither do I believe that Esq. Beach has received the same No 2, therefore you will please send the 2nd an a third also.

I am Yours Most Obet Servt

G. A. Pattillo.

E. H. Tarrant Election Return-

Republic of Texas, County of Red River.

I Edward Tarrant Chief Justice in and for said County do hereby certify that the following named persons has been duly and constitutionally elected, and have been sworn as acting Justices of the Peace for said County of Red River, Viz,

William Wheat, Thomas L. Powers, James Gillard. Wm McElliott, Andrew Lyday, Hamilton L Williams, George W. Tilles. Jacob Lyday, Isaac H Johnson, Amos Wry, Massach H Jones.

E. H. Tarrant. C. J.—R. R. County

W. Ironsmd- Relative to his leave of absence, appointing D. Colton Consul a gent- apprehension of Doctor Humphreys Murder of J. J. Powell

No 10-

Hon R. A. Irion

Consulate of Texas,

New Orleans 30th June 1838

Sir, Your favor under date of the 18th Ultimo was received in due time, and I am much indebted to you for your prompt attention and reply to mine of 28th April, as well as granting me leave of absence of which I shall avail myself the latter part of July and shall leave Daniel E. Colton Esq. as Consular agent for this district.

By the Steam Packet Columbia, I transfer to the Authorities of Texas, under the special charge of Capt. G Powell, Dr Humphrey, who was apprehended in this City on the 31st Ult. under the charge of having murdered Joseph J. Powell in Columbia last summer, and subsequently made his escape from Prison. An attempt was made about the 15th Inst on the part of Humphreys friends to bring him out and release him under the Writ of "Habeas Corpus" but fortunately I had timely notice, and by a prompt and direct application to the Governor obtained from him an order to the Sheriff to hand him over to me.

I cannot on the present occasion omit the expression of my most unqualified approbation of the Course adopted and the disposition manifested by the Local Authorities of this City to render me all the aid they could consistently.

His Excellency Governor White is entitled to the gratitude and thanks of every good Citizen of and well wishes to Texas, for the promptness and decision with which he acted in this emergency as soon as the matter was laid before him in a late room.

With high consideration and respect, I remain
Your very obdt Servt
Anthy Thomson

(Translation)

San Antonio June 30th 1838

E. Seguin relative to the Mexicans

To the Honorable the Secretary of State

Sir, From the 5th day of the present month until the 28th various individuals, in different parties have come before me from the Town of Rio Grande and also from Laredo which is situated on the Banks of the Rio Grande, they brought with them some horses and Mules and also a small quantity of flour beans and other eatables for sale, they all return to their respective homes to day, with the exception of a few old residents of this place who remain at their homes, and with them came also three women originally of this place.

These individuals say nothing in particular respecting public affairs in the Republic of Mexico, but one with the other agree in saying that for the present there is no talk of an expedition against Texas, and that the Ports of that Republic are blockaded by the French squadron.

I make this communication to your honor in order that it may be presented before his Excellency the President.

I am with much respect Your Obdt Servt
Erasmo Seguin, J. P.

San Antonio June 30th 1838

E. Seguin relative to the Capture of Texans, Mexicans &c by Mexican Troops

To the Hon. Secty of State.

Sir, Rafael Herrera of this neighborhood has just called upon me, informing me that coming from the Port of Copano in company with other Mexican Texians, and two individuals citizens of the United States with four carts and a wagon ladened with clothing & provisions they were surprised by a party of Mexican Troops on the rising ground of San Nicholas and that in that place they killed one of the American Citizens and wounded the other, the remainder were made Prisoners and bound, and in that situation carried to the Camp of the Soldiers which was some way distant from the place at which they were surprised, that on their arrival at the Camp they saw that the Company were composed of Soldiers and Peasants and that they numbered about one hundred men, the Commander of whom was Capt. Savariego, that on the following day the Company commenced their March dividing amongst the Soldiers the goods and eatables they could carry and destroying the remainder; the prisoners were put at Liberty with the exception of three men whom they carried with them because they said they were delinquents who had fled from Matamoras but a short time previous and another because he was owing more than one hundred dollars to a person named Falcon to whom he was a servant.

The same Herrera declares also that he heard it said that this party of Troops had left Matamoras with the intention of Chastising Tehuacano Indians who had been robbing horses and doing other damages.

I make this Communication to your honor in order that it may be present before his Excellency the President—

And am with much respect Your Most obdt Servt
Erasmo Seguin—

E. Seguin relative to robberies, com.d by Comanches &c &c

To the Hon.ble the Secretary of State.

San Antonio June 30th 1838

Sir

On the twenty fifth day of the present month, a Texian Citizen presented himself before me, informing me that the Comanches, had robbed him and his Companions at Rio Frio of this County, of some horses, and that on going in search of them to obtain them, there was one of his Companions killed, and another Wounded.

From the experience I have of these Indians, I am inclined to think that the individuals guilty of these bad actions are doing so, without the knowledge of the Chiefs of the Tribe, who consider them in the light of robbers and that the Conduct of a few, ought not to give rise to any misunderstanding, when they themselves (the Captains or Chief) if required would give them up to be punished, and especially as, on a former occasion they continued their evil practices to the extent of Murdering two men in the Vicinity of this place and Carrying Captive two little Children.

It appears to me that the Comanches are not acting in good faith, and that it is necessary to Chastise them and Consequently there is now preparing a party composed of about One hundred men who will March in about two days to punish them wherever they may be met with.

I make this Communication to your honor in order that it may be presented before his Excellency the President and am with much respect

your most obdt Servt
Erasmo Seguin

E. Seguin relative to Comanche depredations

San Antonio July 1st 1838

To the Hon.ble the Secretary of State

It was about 5 O'clock in the afternoon of to day when a Texian Citizen appeared before me, and stated that he passed two men dead about four miles distant from this City, the one a German by appearance, the other a Mexican Texian.

This intelligence corroborates the statement of a man named Bonilas who said that on the old farm of the Priest Garcia he met with these Same individuals now reported as being dead.

It appears to me that the Indians who have been guilty of the injuries to which I allude to in a previous Communication, are very numerous and not as supposed a mere party of robbers, and if this is the case we may expect to receive in a very short time more unpleasant news, which for the present we cannot learn any thing of, in consequence of the distant situation of many of the Farms. According to the last account it is beyond doubt, that the Comanche Indians are declared enemies, and in order to chastise them and avoid the loss and dangers to which the

are inevitably exposed to, it would be a matter greatly to be desired that Hes Excellency the President would have the goodness to take some means of defence to protect the persons and interests of these individuals so as much as the times and circumstances may admit of, as they are unable to defend themselves and I much fear that on the return of the expedition which is about to start against the Comanches, the greater part of the individuals engaged in it, will be unable for some time to lend their services in another, in fact should the Indians come down upon us, as it is reasonable to suppose their will not only be a disposable force to punish them, but it will be impossible to avoid the damage and injuries they will continue to execute.

For so much I entreat your Honor to give information of all I have written to Hes Excellency the President, in order that he will have the goodness to recommend the measures of defence and protection solicited, and that it may be done with as little delay as possible, for this, the state of insecurity of the inhabitants of this County, and their unhappy and melancholy situation at present demands.

I am with much respect
Your most obdt Servt
Erasmo Seguin

Sam Houston
requiring a Executive Department
Statement from Depts. 3
Depts and Bureaus.

City of Houston June 28th 1838

Every head of Department, of Government, will require of the Bureau or Bureaus under his control, a full and detailed account, of the business, the number of Clerks, in the respective offices, their Salaries names &c, and will communicate the same to the Executive by the first of October next.

I have the honor to be
Your obdt Servt
Sam Houston

To the Hon.ble
R. A. Irion Secy of State

R. F. Ford
relative to
County
boundaries.

Goliad June 30th 1838

To the Hon.ble, the
Secretary of State

Sir

Great confusion has been created in this part of the country, by want of Laws defining the county boundaries.

Several months since, I applied to you for the boundaries of this County but found that none had been made. I have since received the South and West boundaries of Gonzales, which will be the East boundary of Goliad. — I have been informed that an act was passed last session of Congress, defining the east boundary of San Patricio County, and the South east boundary of Bexar. If such is the case you will oblige me much by sending me a copy of such acts, as we have no light on the subject in this County

Yours with much respect &c
R. F. Ford County Surveyor
Goliad County

P. S.
any other light you can give will be
R. F. F.

P. T. O.

F. Catlett
relative to
Dr. Mauney's
memorialist

Washington City
July 3rd 1838

Dear Sir

The accompanying document is transmitted to you at the request of the memorialist Dr James Mauney, who as I am informed by the Hon. Mr. M. Shepard of North Carolina is a highly respectable and worthy citizen of that State. — The Doctor requests in his letter to me, that his Memorial be laid before Congress, at as early day as practicable.

With great respect
Your obt Servt
Fairfax Catlett

To
Hon R. A. Irwin
Secy of State.

F. M. Gibson
Election
Returns =

Galveston 5th July 1838

Sir

You will find enclosed the returns of the election for the civil officers of our County. as you will perceive from the returns there is but one precinct.

Very Respectfully
Fenton M. Gibson.

To
Hon. R. A. Irwin
Secy of State

Victoria July 6th 1838

D. D. Lim
relative to
Cattle &c.

Dear Sir

Permit me to intrude on your time, in order to inform you of what I conceive to be of some interest at least to a considerable number in this part of the Country, many of the frontier inhabitants had to leave their homes without being able to take any of their Cattle with them, during their absence many persons collected Cattle, wherever they could be found without distinction of who they belongs, and many had orders from one Mr Caldwell, who took Peters cattle to give to Paul, now the right owners comes and wants to have their property back, those having possession says that they will not give them up, as they were given to them by Caldwell for some they say they lost by the war &c, and that the real owners have no right to the cattle, the State of the case, stands thus, the Government will not pay the owners for the owners cannot show any receipts for them, from the officers of the Government. which leaves them without recourse they cannot according to Mr Caldwells opinion and those who have the property in possession, have the cattle no will the Government pay them this is the case in several instances. It is truly hard that persons must stand by and see their property in many cases in the hands of those who before the war had nothing and now having abundance and they cannot get redress in no way. but I think different I know of no law that either gives to the Government or individuals who have property of this description right

the same without just compensation. Some very strange changes have taken place within a year or two. I see that men who came to the Country at the 11th hour and who got some office or other in the Government and were adventurers without any means but their wits now are the possessors of thousands, so we go. I know that these things are painful to you, but still I think that some remedy ought to be applied, to suit the case, you I hope will excuse my troubling you with the foregoing. I have only to add that if you were only eligible for another term, you would have the whole vote of this part of the Executive term, a gain which you will have the consolation to carry with you to your retirement.

With sentiments of true
Respect, I remain yours
John A. Lane

His Excellency
Sam Houston
President

E. H. Tarrant
Election
Returns =

Republic of Texas County of Red River

I Edward H. Tarrant Chief Justice of the County aforesaid, do hereby certify, That the following is a true list of the Civil Officers in said County. to wit:

William W. Burrit Coroner
William C Young Sheriff. James G. Wright Clerk of the County Court. Maynard James & William Elliott Justices of the Peace in Beat No. 1 Amos Ury and Edmund Miller No. 2. James Gillam and David Chisholm No. 3 William Wheat and Thomas L Cowen No 4. Isaac H. Johnson and Martin Guest No. 5 Joseph Matthews and B. B. Ballard No. 6 John S Harmon and Hamlin L Williams No. 7 William Mays No 8. Jacob Lyday & Andrew Lyday No. 9 Lindly Johnson & John A. Rutherford No 10 Jason Wilson & Benjamin F Kimble No 11
Constables Collin M Aikin Beat No. 1 Jacob Barkman No 2. Josiah F Wheat No 4 Reuben Mitchell resigned Benjamin Blanton elected No 5 Andrew S. Young No 6 Henry Bingham No 7 Samuel S Smith No 8 J. B Chaffin No 9. Samuel Dunlow No. 10

Given under my hand and private seal there being no seal of office at Clarksville this 6th July A.D. 1838 and of the Independence of Texas the third.

Edward H. Tarrant Ch Justice
Red River County.

A. H. Cobb
Resignation
as Chf Justice

Lagrange July 9th 1838

Dear Sir

Circumstances not within my Control, render it necessary that I should tender to the Executive, my resignation as Chief Justice of the County of Fayette, and I wish this communication to be accepted as such.

If my opinion should have any

weight with the President I could wish to recommend Mr. Nicholas W. Eastland as a person well qualified, and every way worthy of succeeding to that office.

I take this liberty under the persuasion that his Excellency is in general unacquainted with the people of this County.

I am very respectfully Sir
Your obt Servt
J. Webb Chief Justice
Fayette County

Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Mr. Harley's Election Return =

Republic of Texas City of Milam

I the undersigned Chief Justice of the County aforesaid certify that on the 11th day of June last Jeile. H. Inman was duly elected Justice of the Peace for the 1st Captains district Calvin Boales Corner and Richard Teal constable of the 2nd Captains district of sd County

And on the Twenty Eighth of June last Augustin W. Sillivan was duly elected Sheriff of said County, Vice J. F. Chevins Decd July 10th 1838.

Massillon Farley Chief Justice

A. H. Williams accepting the appointment of Consul

Baltimore July 12th 1838

Sir

Your letter 20 March with a commission appointing me Consul of your Republic for this City has been received. I should earlier have acknowledged this compliment from your government and tendered my thanks and acceptance of the station, but I have been much absent and occupied in business which has prevented direct attention to this duty — Altho. my exertions in favor of your interesting Republic were never intended to draw from your government any acknowledgement, I am nevertheless qualified that they may have been considered worthy of notice. It would afford me sincere pleasure to have at my power to extend to your Govt. my attention and assistance in fitting out for it a Navy competent to put you in command of the Gulph and draw from Mexico, an acknowledgement of your Independence by depriving them of the commerce of other powers, which would in my opinion be the most certain & speedy manner of closing your contest with that country. You will please assure the President of my best exertions in the discharge of the duties of the office, to which he has appointed me & tender to him my thanks, and accept for yourself the consideration of my esteem & respect

your obt Servt
Henry A. Williams

To Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Columbus July 13th 1838

Petition praying the appointment of N. S. E. Herd

Your Citizens would respectfully represent that there is no Notary Public in the Town of Columbus, the County Seat of Colorado, and also that the Hon. N. S. E. Herd who has been commissioned Chief Justice to serve as Chief Justice (in the event of his qualification) resides the in lieu of of thirty five miles from the County Seat, the Town of Columbus

N. S. E. Herd

and inasmuch as it is in accordance with an act of Congress entitled "an act, authorizing the President, to appoint a Notaries Public, approved, May 15th A.D. 1838. then your Excellency will appoint Mr Regin Byrne to fill that office in and for the Town of Columbus, for this your Petitioners most humbly pray, and as in duty bound will ever pray. Names. Colen De Bland, John Johns, J. B. Mixon Richard Lawry, J. W. E. Wallace F. Scranton, M'Ramsey, James Burlson, W. B. Devices, Williams Bell.

B. J. Nordraff
Resignation
as Chief Justice

Galveston 16th July 1838

Sir

I have the honor of acknowledging the receipt this day of a commission as Justice of the Peace:

Feeling indisposed longer to discharge the duties of the office, I would respectfully beg leave to resign the same which enclosed is herewith tendered.

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servt
Benj. J. Nordraff.

Petition
praying the
appointment
of Supreme
Court=

Brazoria July 17th 1838

The undersigned members of the Brazoria Bar, concerning it of the least importance to the vital interest of the country, that the office of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court should be filled by a gentleman of talents of the highest character, for legal attainments, sterling integrity, unshrinking firmness, and of unimpeachable morals, respectfully beg leave to recommend John Birdsall Esqr.

This appointment would contribute in an eminent degree to the elevation of the bench to its proper respectability, and the unbounded confidence to which he is entitled, would place the administration of the law upon a certain and sacred basis. Should your Excellency conceive it necessary to appoint a successor to our recommended late Chief Justice, James Collinsworth, the undersigned cherish the sanguine hope that the merits of Mr. Birdsall are so well known that he will be generally recommended to your consideration.

Wm. H. Jack, T. J. Sayers, S. Freen, E. M. Pease, Wm. C. Jack
Jno. W. Harris, R. J. Jones.

W. Martin
acknowledging
the Recpt. of
the Laws of
Congress=

Fort Bend County
July 15th 1838.

Sir

I this day acknowledge to have received ten (10) copies of the third volume of the laws of the Republic of Texas, which is sufficient to furnish one volume to all the Justices, Clerks, and Sheriff of the County, at the same time. I received two copies of Messages, and other communications made to the 1st Congress of the Republic of Texas by the Executive at the adjourned session which commenced in 1838.

I beg leave further to state to your Honor, that I have heretofore received from the Department of State, a sufficient number of copies of the first and second volumes of the laws, as are sufficient to supply the officers of the county,

with sentiments of high respect and esteem.

I have the honor to be your obt. humble Servant.

Wm. H. Wharton
Secy of State

Wm. Martin Gov.

Victoria July 18th 1838

L. A. Moody
Relative to
direct tax = relative to raising a revenue by direct taxation. how it is to be assessed, are
ation — also persons who open an establishment liable to the yearly tax, should they
Licenses. only remain 6 or 3 months in business or do such persons come under the head
of pedlars, if a building is licensed will it authorize different parties
to sell under the same, that is on the removal of one, can another succeed, and
the firm License, be sufficient, can any individual sell the unexpired term
of a yearly license

Respectfully your obt Servt.
L. A. Moody C. C.

To Hon. W. H. Wharton
Secy of State

The above referred to the Attorney General July 18th 1838

A. Birdsall The license fee, I think, is to considered assessed upon the establishment, and
Opinion on not upon the person, except in the case of Pedlars, who are understood to be
Licenses — travelling traders passing from place & County to County.

an establishment, therefore
which has paid its yearly license may be used through the year in the
business for which licensed, no matter by whom.

A. Birdsall atty Genl

War Department
Houston July 19th 1838

G. W. Hockley
Relative to
granting Bounty
Land to officers
and privates
of the army

Sir

The department is somewhat at a loss in relation to
said laws, granting Bounty Lands to officers, and
resignations and discharges are frequently presented
when it appears they entered the service since the 1st March 1837. My predecessor entertaining an idea that all such were not entitled to Bounty Lands, rejected them on those grounds, not having any law before the department contradicting to this in granting Bounty Lands, you will please (as early as convenient) give the information required.

Very Respectfully
your obt Servt
Geo W Hockley. Secy of war

Atty Genl's Office
Houston July 20th 1838

A. Birdsall
Opinion on
granting Bounty
Land to Officers
and privates
of the army

Sir

In reply to the note of the Sec. of the Secy of war under
date of the 19th instant, upon the subject, I have the
honor to state that the inquiry made by the Secy of war, has once
before been addressed to me from that Department

which at present marks the administration of Col. Bee.

A general impression

existed that a law of the Congress had passed or passed at last session granting bounties to volunteers which ceased — but the examination we were then able to make did not discover the particular enactment the conviction, however, was so strong and general that a law had been passed, it was determined to set upon it. And it seems the Department issued upon the first of March 37. at which they remained still.

The law in question is the 4th Section of the act of 1836 supplementary to the land law at page 384. of the first volume of printed laws.

This law prohibits the issuing of bounty lands from the passage of the law, which was on the 12th June 1837.

All volunteers who enlisted previous to the 12th June 1837, are entitled to the established bounty. those enrolled subsequently are not entitled to any bounty in lands

I am Respectfully
Your obt Servt.
John Wm Ashmun Atty Genl

To R. A. Irion
Secy of State

D. Y. Porter
& J. Scott
recom^ding
A. Grum Jr

His Excellency the President of the Republic of Texas

The undersigned would most respectfully represent that a vacancy has occured in the office of Coroner for the County of Harrisburg Public Necessity requires the immediate exercise of the appointing power of your Excellency — On account of some defects in the exist of Coroner-ing Statutes there is no way by which the Sheriff of the County can be reached or compelled to obey the process of any Court during a vacancy in the office mentioned. Nor can the collection of debts be enforced against him, or rules of Court be served upon him or his Securities, in cases of his default or mal-administration. They would therefore recommend unto your Excellency the exercise of the appointing power and recommend to your consideration the name of John Green Jr. a resident Citizen of the County of Harrisburg of character and property one possessed of the requisite qualifications to discharge the duties of the office, and willing to accept of the appointment.

David Y Porter
John Scott

Washington. July 27th 1838

Petition — To the Honorable
praying The Secy of State
the appoint-
of A. Hurg-
-ment to the
Office of
Auctioneer

We the undersigned take great pleasure in recommending our friend Mr. A Ferguson as an auctioneer for this place, and understanding that the Commission or appointment has to be issued by your Honor. — Mr Ferguson has been a resident of this place for more than a year, and we know him to be an honest and upright citizen of the Republic. at present we have no officer of the kind, and we frequently have business of the kind to do, and it has to be done by one of the officers of the Peace

(If refer to petitions on file for names)

Very Respectfully yours &c.

E Morehouse relative to the disorganized state of the County of San Patricio

Victoria July 3rd 1838

Dear Sir

From the peculiar situation of the western counties and more particularly the County of San Patricio, it is absolutely necessary that some immediate action should be taken to organize in the most advisable manner the civil department in that Section as shall give justice and satisfaction to its Citizens. The Land Office for that County has not as yet been fully organized, which renders it greatly to the disadvantage of its inhabitants. They have been unable to meet the payment of their land dues on account of the President of the board of land commissioners, not having entered on the duties of his office. From the present position of the enemy of our country it will be necessary that he should open his office in one of the bordering and more secure counties (Victoria for the present. — The citizens of the West requested that, I should submit the above to your consideration, If any other steps should be necessary to be taken. — Please instruct Mr Calum at Victoria, which will be complied with. Your attention to the above will be thankfully acknowledged &c

Yours &c
E Morehouse

P.S. Enclosed is the bond
Hon R A. Irion
Secy of State

Sam Houston appointing J R Hubert Dist attorney for 5th Judicial Dist

Nacogdoches Texas 30th July 1838

Sir

You are hereby appointed District attorney, for the fifth Judicial District of the Republic. — You will take the requisite Oath of office, and proceed to execute the duties of your district Station.

I have the Honor to be with great respect, your obt Servt
Sam Houston

To John R Hubert Esqr

G Borden Jr relative to pilotage

Port of Galveston 31st July 1838

Sir

During the latter part of the 1st Session of Second Congress, there was a project of a law on pilotage, submitted through the Secretary of the Treasury to the House, which I understood was not acted upon, My object therefore to request you will send me a copy of the said proposed law for my government in controlling the pilotage under the act passed last Session.

The one proposed the first Session was drawn up by myself with the assistance of the most experienced Ship Master and Pilots, and could I procure a copy, it would save me much trouble and time in drawing up another, having lost the prototype one sent up

I have the honor to be
your obt. Hble Servt
G. Borden Jr.

Hickly
enclosing
Clark Jr
Bond, &c Pres.
B. Land Comrs

Velasco July 31st 1838

To Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Sir

Inclosed is the Bond of William Clark Jr. and Securities in the sum of twenty thousand Dollars conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties as President of the Board of Land Commissioners or receiver of public moneys, in and for the County of Sabine, which has been duly recorded in office as certified thereon.

Miller Hinckley Sep. C.C
County of Sabine

C. A. Forbes,
praying for
a copy of
the laws &
constitution.

New York August 2nd 1838

To Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Sir

Having been obtained here Consul of Texas for this City during the absence of the Consul General in Europe, and being a member of the Legal profession, I find myself frequently called upon by emigrants and others, for information relative to the laws of Texas, which I am by many cases unable to furnish from want of the proper sources of reference. As these are not to be obtained here I would suggest the expediency of my being supplied through your Department, with a copy of the Constitution and laws, and such other documents as might be deemed useful.

I had the honor on the 16th ult. to transmit to you a despatch received by me from the Hon. J. Pinckney Henderson Diplomatic Agent in Europe.

It will gratify you to be assured that a high opinion prevails in this community with regard to the character resources and prospects of Texas, and improvements appear to be making for a more intimate mercantile communication.

It is possible that I may at some future time enjoy the pleasure of a visit to the Republic, and do not know but I may become resident there.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully your obt Servt
Charles A. Forbes

J. Birdsall
relative to the
eligibility of
a certain
individual

City Gent's Office
Austin 2nd August 1838

Hon R. A. Irion
Sec'y of State

Sir

Upon the facts presented in the note of Mr John A. Hill referred to me there can be no doubt of the eligibility of the individual referred. His temporary absence to the U. States, on business, after having commenced his settlement in this country could not interrupt his residence here.

Very Respect. your obt Servt
John Birdsall atty Genl.

J. Birdsall
opinion
relative to
auctioneers

Atty Genl's Office
Houston 2nd Aug. 1838.

To Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State.

Sir

I am not aware of any law whatever on the subject of auctioneers or sales at auction. I am confident there is none.— of course your Department has nothing to do in the matter.

With great respect
Your obt. Servt
John Birdsall atty Genl.

J. G. Jewett
relative to
Election
Returns -

Jewetts 3rd Aug 1838

Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State.

Dear Sir

I have but just received your note, of the purport of the May last, in which you inform me, of your not having received the returns of the elections, of the civil officers of this County, to which I can only reply, that for want of a conveyance by mail sooner. I asked Mr. Hurlet when he was going on, last Spring, to take them to you, which he promised me he did do, shortly after he arrived at the seat of Government, last Spring. The letter above alluded to was received by private hand had been directed to Johnstons post office and fifty cents postage charged on it so said the post Master at that place

With great consideration
Yours very respectfully
J. G. Jewett. J.P. F.C.

L. M. Hitchcock
Returns of
passengers

Port of Galveston 3rd Aug 1838

Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Sir

I accompany this please find returns of passengers arrived for the quarter ending 30th June last,

I have the honor to remain
your obt. Servt
L. M. Hitchcock P.P.C.

Sam Houston
appointing
J. Birdsall
Chief Justice
pro tem
of the
Republic
of Texas

Jacksydoches 4th aug 1836?

Hon John Birdsall

Sir

I have the honor of appointing you Chief Justice of the Republic of Texas (pro tem) to fill the vacancy which has resulted in consequence of the decease of the Hon James Collinsworth.

Should you the same, you will be pleased to enter upon the duties of the and notify the fact to President as early as convenient. Sh

A. Brigham
Relative to
Outfit &
Salary of
Gen. Hunt

Treasurers office
Houston aug 5th 1838

Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Your communication under date of the 6th inst respecting the views of the President in relation to the outfit and Salary of Genl. Hunt was handed me by Mess. Jones.

I am sorry to inform you that the funds in the treasury are all absorbed, with the exceptions of the amounts, deposited for the express purpose of complying with the specific appropriations of Congress. (viz) First on the Funded Debt State, War, and Post office Departments. — These deposites always being subject to the proper authorities, I therefore cannot be used for any other purpose. I am sorry the claims in question were not presented at a time when there were funds in the treasury to liquidate them for I see the necessity of having all claims of this character promptly paid.

With sentiments of respect
Your obt Servt
A. Brigham Treasurer

J. P. Pulsifer
transmitting
Bond & oath
of Office

Beaumont aug 5th 1838

Hon R. A. Irion

Sir

Enclosed is the bond of William C. Thomson and his oath of office as deputy surveyor, also the oath of office of Joseph P. Pulsifer as President of the board of Land Commissioners for Jefferson County.

Respectfully yours
Joseph P. Pulsifer

A. Burdsall
Resignation
as Atty Genl
and
acceptance
of Chf Justice
of Republic
of Texas

Houston 10th Aug 1838

His Excellency
Sam Houston
President of the Repb. of Texas

Sir

I have the honor, herewith, to tender my resignation of the office of Attorney General, and declare my acceptance of that of Chief Justice of the Republic of Texas.

With sentiments of high consideration your obt Servt
A. Burdsall

J. Atwell
Relative to
Removal
Place
Education

Galveston Aug 13th 1838

Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Sir

Upon reflection since seeing you, I have thought it prudent to address the Hon Secy of State of the United States

relative to a change of my residence from Velasco to this place and think should my application be backd by a letter from you to him in my favor or with your permission. I would enclose one from you to me, should you approve of my official conduct, at this place since having the pleasure of your acquaintance, and let your letter be addressed to me containing any remarks you may be pleased to name to me, and containing or expressing your wish that I may be permitted to remain at Galveston. I trust you will excuse the liberty thus taken, and my anxiety to remain at this place and feeling a confidence in the friendship of yourself and the President towards me induced this intrusion upon your time.

I have the honor to be Sir
your obt Servt.
Stewart Newell

D. E. Cotton
Relative to the
Sam &c &c

New Orleans Aug 14th 1838

Hon R. A. Irion

Sir

I acknowledge with pleasure the receipt from your Department, of a pamphlet containing the "Messages and other communications, made to the 4th Congress of the Republic of Texas, by the Executive," on examination I find that it is not complete, several pages have been omitted, say from page 24 to 37 inclusive. If not too much trouble, would thank you to send another copy, and also, a copy of the laws passed at the adjourned Session of Congress 1838. Likewise recd two National Banners.

I have taken the liberty of enclosing to you and others, a Specimen Sheet of "St John's forth coming digest of the civil Laws of La., which may be of some Service to the legal profession in Texas, it is published by Subscription at fifteen dollars each copy. Please do me the favor to hand one of the Specimens to R. H. Williamson Esqr. with my best respects. Mr Townsend informs me it would be unnecessary to correspond with your department during his absence, unless a case of emergency should require it. I have accordingly addressed this as "Non official." No news of importance from Mexico, The French blockade is yet continued with vigor.

With the consideration and respect
I am your very obt. Servt.
D. E. Cotton
Consular agent

W. M. Logan
Resignation
as Sheriff of
Liberty Co.

Houston Aug 30th 1838

To Hon. R. A. Irion

Dear Sir

Having to leave my county on my constant business and being compelled to be absent for some time. I would very strongly neglect the duties of my office. I therefore beg leave to have permission to resign the same and hope this my tender of resignation

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will be received.

Yours with much respect
William H. Logan.
Sheriff of Liberty County.

Colinkerville aug 15th 1838

J. G. Wright
transmitting
Offices Bond &c.
collection of
the Revenue &c.

Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Enclosed you will find the Bond of the District Clerk elected on the 21st day of last month for this County, my license bond by mistake of the Chief Justice of this County, was sent &c &c to that Department, which we hope will be returned. In relation to the Execution of my duty respecting the collection of the revenue, due from retailers &c. I find myself much embarassed and I hope to get instructions from the Department of State, how to proceed, I have been advised, that, that, is the proper department to call on for instructions. It is only a few weeks since the first copies of Laws came to hand, which authorizes and requires the Clerks of the County Courts, to issue licenses to retailers, Peddlers and receive the duties of the Government for the same. And also to report to the Secretary of the Treasury, on or before the first day in September in each year, and pay over the amt of public monies that may have come into their hands, into the treasury of the Republic.

Since that time I have notified some of the retailers of the law, they however excuse themselves by saying the line between the Governments is not run, and that we have no receiving titles to our Land, a few weeks since, I concluded I would make an experiment with regard to the efficacy of our laws on the subject I brought an action of debt against a peddler for fifty dollars for retailing without a license in our. before William Wheat Esqr. one of the Associate Justices in said County. The Peddler attended declaring he would abide the laws and the Justice failed to attend his own appointment, we are here without precedents from any of the higher Court of the Government, and I think without perfect copies of the law, and as to the laws we have not more than half the Civil officers of the County are supplied, we have no place to lay our complaints, But to the Heads of Departments of our own Government written instruction how I should proceed in the matter of collecting the revenue for the Government would be thankfully received

Your me obt Humb: Servt
I. G. Wright

Name of
Election of
Collectors
Ports of the
Ports
entry in the
Republic
of Texas

Houston Treasury Dept. aug 15th 1838

Names of Collectors of Customs of the different ports of Entry in the Republic of Texas

Gail Borden Jr.	Port of Galveston	John G Love San Augustine
Jeremiah Brown	Brazos Velasco	R. C. Moore Saline Beaumont
George M Collinsworth	Matagorda	
George W Fulton	Aransas.	

C. Seguin
relative to
the murder
of a Mexican
&c &c &c

Bexar aug 7th 1838

Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Sir

An examination made in consequence of a Robbery committed by a party of evil doers, on a party of Mexicans coming from Rio Grande at a place called Tahuacano Creek, where all there horses were taken, one Boy killed and a man wounded, the following individuals belong to this Company guilty of this act, Capt Cox resident of Bastrop, Turner Spaulding, Hay, Gray, Hill, Burney, Edmunson, Thompson, Crockett, Hicks, Purchase Harris, Pibingston, Herald, Alexander, Gorum, Gammel, Zeogerle, Marble, of which I advise your honor, to enable you to lay the matter before his Excellency the President of the Republic, that he may be enable to judge of the most convenient means to secure the persons of the delinquents, it having been impossible to arrest them here.

I have the honor to be
your attentive Sert
Erazmo Seguin J.P.

Relative to the Murder of a Mexican, Capture &c. trial &c &c

This document commences with the oath of José Maria Hernandez, respecting the attack made upon a party of Mexicans coming from Rio Grande by a Company of Americans on the 2nd day of the present Month, when a boy was killed and a man wounded.— Judge Seguin on the 3rd orders the Sheriff to arrest and bring before him all suspicious persons, who, in obedience to the order takes up William Gamble, Jacob Zergle, and Louis Marble, and obtains possession of a number of the horses stolen from the Mexicans, the individuals mentioned above are on the 4th sworn to give evidence regarding the occurrence at "Tahuacano" and it is to the following effect, that Capt Cox raised a company in Bastrop for the purpose of taking the town of Loredo, carrying off all the Horses and cattle they could find, and burning the place, this company left Bastrop on the 17th July last, but on arrival at San antonio the Capt determined to await the arrival of another company of Americans with seven Choctaw Indians who were going to Rio Grande, They did not come however, and Capt Cox determined to go alone, and the company encamped at "Tahuacano" creek, where a party of Mexicans coming from Rio Grande joined them and seemed desirous to be on friendly terms mutual professions passed between them, when suddenly the Captain of the American party seized upon some of the Mexicans, deprived them of their arms killing the boy and wounding a man, they then took from the Mexicans all their property, consisting of Horses saddles Blankets, money, and in fact everything they had, not leaving them there clothing or a morsel of food this is the substance of the evidence on examination of the three individuals above named who were members of the same Company raised by Capt Cox and by order of Judge Seguin they were imprisoned as accomplices in the outrage and robbery, The proceedings then are continued by the examination of Felipe Taime one of the Mexican party and varies in almost nothing from the statements made by the persons above named he could assign no reason for the attack upon them, they were perfect

amicable one towards the other, so far as appearances went. Jose Antonio Julianes makes a similar statement, he was one of the party from Rio Grande the party had brought a small quantity of flour sugar and leather to exchange or sell in San Antonio to enable them to buy some domestic goods, these as well as the other articles were taken away by the americans, and they were advised to retirn to Rio Grande as there were a great many americans in San Antonio, Manuel Flores is the next person examined, his statements vary very little from the others, he says that as the Americans were leaving, they sent them two or three worn out animals for the use of a woman and five or six children belonging to the Mexican party, that the americans broke all their guns and left them entirely defenceless, Felix Aristo is the last person examined, and he confirms the previous details with minute accuracy.

The document concludes by an acceptation of Bail on the part of Judge Seguin for the Three Americans or members of Capt Cox's Company incarcerated as being accomplices in the Robbery and outrage, this is done in consequence of the insecurity of the jail and the want of County funds to maintain the prisoners or make the prison available the whole certified and signed by his honor the Chief Justice of Bexar County.

Trial of members of Capt Cox's company with explanations in Spanish on file in this department. — dated Bexar 14th August 1838

Victoria 14th Aug. 1838

G. A. Moody
transmitting Official Bond.

To the Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Sir

I herewith enclose detnet Clerk Bond and Security and the President of Board of Land Commissioners Bond and Security

and remain Sir your ob't Serv't
G. A. Moody

Relative to
the murder
of a Mexican
&c &c

San Antonio 14th Aug. 1838

Hon R. A. Irion
Sec'y of State

Sir

Having finished the examination which has engaged me during the past few days, and of which your Honor was informed by letter dated the 7th of the present month. I now transmit you a certified copy of said examination, that if it meets the approbation of His Excellency the President he may order the arrest of those considered guilty within the limits of this County it has been found impossible to find or secure them. "Requesting your Honor to lay before His Excellency the President the Copy of the examination accompanying this

I have the honor to remain
Your Humble Servt
Erasmo Seguin C.J. & B.

E. Seguin
relative to
commerce
& traffic
with the
Rio Grande
-ians &c

San Antonio 14th Aug 1838

Hon. R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Sir

The order of his Excellency the President bearing date the 13th of June of the present year, which I received through your Honor was announced or published yesterday, said order contains the rules or terms under which is permitted the commerce or traffick with our friends on the river Rio Grande to this city and other places in Texas. Having put up two copies of said order in the most public places of said City that all might have information or knowledge of the same, I also sent others to the Rio Grande in accordance with the intention or design of said order, and beg to assure your Honor that in all other matters connected with said Order strict attention will be paid, exercising the prudence and carefulness thereon suggested and recommended, and which are so necessary to realize the wholesome and salutary views of His Excellency the President. I request your honor will lay before his Excellency the assur=ances of my intentions in this matter.

With all respect your mo obt Servt
Erasmo Seguin C. I.

H. P. Kimball
relative to
Stationary
for Translator

Galveston Aug 16th 1838

Dear Sir

Dr. Irion told me he could let me have some paper suitable for the translation, having now completed and wishing now to commence transcribing it, together with the original I should be very glad to get some fools cap or something of that sort ruled, stout and good so that ink will not show through, - As the Dr. told me he expected shortly to be absent, and refered me to you for anything that might offer, I take the liberty to request you to send me one ream of such paper, please to send by the first opportu=nity as I am now waiting for it, and you will much oblige.

Yours Sincerely
H. P. Kimball

Hon. I. Birdsall

M. M. Rhoads
relative to
Stationary
for Translator

Galveston 29th Aug 1838

Hon. I Birdsall

Sir

The enclosed letter ought to have reached you a week ago, but unfortunately was left thro the negligence of the gentleman to whom it was given to forward, the delay has been a source of great vexation to my Brother, who has completed the translation, and is unable to procure paper suitable to copy it, Dr. Irion mentioned that as he was to be absent my Brother had better address you, should he require paper will you oblige him by seeing that it is forwarded to him by the next B. having nothing at all to do, he has become exceedingly impatient, know=ing the great necessity for the immediate completion of the work

My family join in kind regards to
Very Respect

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Galveston Aug 24th 1838

Hon. R. A. Irion

Dr Sir

T. F. McKinney relative to appointing Jno. Miller

Inclose you this letter to Jones and beg your early attention to the contents. Mr John Miller of Versailles is a man of very high reputation and commands great influence in the moneied community, and the appointment vice Slater has not knowing any application has been made, will suppose he is well known in Texas, and can aid very materially in the Loan if he will, If Texas can get their money whether in the hands of Government or individuals she will be benefitted, Send me Jones letter, and let me hear from you by return Boat

Your friend truly
Thos F. McKinney

Mustang Prairie Sept 9th 1838

S. Trigg resignation as Justice of the Peace for Houston Co.

Hon Secy of State

Inclosed you have my commission as Justice of the Peace for Houston Co. which I wish to resign please accept of my resignation

Respectfully your obt Servt
John Trigg

County of Fort Bend
September 10th 1838

W. Martin Election Returns for President & V. President

Hon R. A. Irion

Have the honor to enclose to the Secretary of State my official return of the result of the election held in this County on the 3rd inst so far as relates to the President and Vice President of the Republic of Texas, Sealed and directed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, I also enclose for the Secretary's eye (presuming it will be agreeable to him) a full and complete return of the result of the election as held on that day.

And am with great respect & esteem &c
Wily Martin C Justice

Liberty 13th Sept 1838

F. M. Logan relative to W. B. Johnston holding dual Offices

Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Sir

I take the liberty of addressing you, for the purpose of ascertaining whether Hugh B Johnston Esqr a justice of the Peace of the County of Liberty, and an associate Commr of said County has tendered his resignation to your Department of either of the above named offices. An immediate answer is respectfully solicited, for the purpose of contesting the election of the said individual, who has been elected a member to the House of Representatives, Should he not have tendered his resignation

Respectfully your obt Servt
F. M. Logan

Wm L. Hunter
Election
Return, Goliad
Refugio &
San Patricio Co.

Goliad 15th Sept. 1838

Hon R. A. Irion
Sec'y of State

Sir

Inclosed I send a return of the elections held in Goliad on Monday the third day of September, you will perceive that there were three Elections held in Goliad one by the citizens of San Patricio, one by the citizens Refugio and another by those of Goliad. The election for Goliad as returned to me was not strictly according to law not having been witnessed by the managers and Clerks, but was sworn to by one of the managers who delivered it to me, at the same time an election was held for a justice of the peace Sheriff and County Clerk for Goliad those offices having been vacated. J.K. Graham was elected Justice of Peace, William Wood was elected Sheriff and Joseph Hopkins County Clerk

Yours Respectfully
Wm L. Hunter C.I.G.C

J Toby & Bro
praying
for certain
Lands.

New Orleans 16th Sept. 1838

Hon R. A. Irion
Sec'y of State

Dear Sir

You will much oblige me by obtaining a copy of an act approved 15th may last, "providing for the location Land Scrip issued by an act of Congress dated 6th day December 1836 & for recdg the same," also an act approved 24th may last, Entitled an act "supplementary to an act providing for the location of Land Scrip, issued under an act of Congress dated 6th December 1836 & for recdg the same," it is necessary that it should be certified by the Hon Sec'y of the Treasury, as well as by yourself, and in so doing you will confer a favor on

your obt. Servant
Thos Toby & Bro.

Beaumont Sept. 19th 1838

H. Millard
Election
Return for
Justice of the
Peace.

Hon R. A. Irion
Sec'y of State

Sir

Agreeable to the returns of an election held at the court house in the town of Beaumont, for one Justice of the Peace to fill a vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Moses Allen Esqr for the precinct of Beaumont, county of Jefferson, James Clarke Esqr was unanimously elected, according to law, Receiving twenty votes for said office that being the whole number polled, as per returns of R. C. Dunn J. L. Graham, and Joseph S. Pelsifer Judges and John C Mead Esqr. returning officer, please forward his Commission so soon as convenient.

Respectfully
your obt. Servt.
Henry Millard
Chief Justice Jefferson

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Liberty County 18th Sept 1838

J. S. Johnson
resigning
associate
Com.rs and
Justice of the
Peace —

Hon. R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Sir

You will be pleased to accept my resignation as associate Commissioner, and as Justice of the Peace, the commissions of which are herein enclosed

Yours very respectfully
Jesse S. Johnson

Matagorda Sept 25th 1838

G. M. Collingsworth
praying the
appointment
of John G.
Davenport
To the Office
of Chief Justice

Excellent Sir

I take this opportunity of recommending to your Excellency the appointment of Mr John G. Davenport to fill the vacancy of Chief Justice of this County occasioned by the death of Sinclair McGerais dec.d I take pleasure in recommending Mr Davenport as a Juror well qualified to fill the office, a gentleman of unimpeachable integrity, and high moral worth; and have no hesitation in saying that the appointment of Mr Davenport will meet with the approbation of all the respectable part of this community

You will receive the petition of Mr Wallace, sent by this mail in which you will find the signatures of many of whom you are well acquainted, by granting the prayer of your petitioners you will secure talent and justice to this community, and oblige

&c.
Sam Houston

Your friend and obt Servt
Geo. M. Collingsworth

Richmond 30th Sept 1838
Fort Bend County

J. S. Johnson, Hon R. A. Irion
resignation Secy of State
of his
Justiceship

Your petitioner J. S. Johnson Justice of the Peace of the aforesaid County, in consequence of ill health, respectfully solicits the acceptance of his resignation of said Justiceship and offers assurances of his distinguished consideration

J. S. Johnson

Matagorda Sept 30th 1838

Petition
praying
to appoint
of Silas
Dinsmore
Chief Justice

His Excellency
Sam Houston

Sir

Your undersigned Petitioners Citizens of the County of Matagorda, respectfully represent, that in consequence of the illness of the Hon Sinclair McGerais Chief Justice of this County they have been debarred the privilege of a Probate Court, at the last regular term; and that now his death has left the office vacant and from an accumulation of business, the interests of your petitioners in common with their fellow citizens generally are suffering

Your petitioners had already addressed a memorial to your Excellency recommending, John G. Davenport as a fit and proper person to fill the office, and they have now the melancholy duty of acquainting your Excellency of his premature death

Your petitioners therefore pray that another Chief Justice be appointed in time to hold a court at the next october term, and believing that our fellow citizen and former Chief Justice, Silas Dinsmore Jr Esqr. possesses the requisite of knowledge, integrity and independence to fill that high and responsible situation, Your petitioners earnestly solicit your Excellency to comply with our wishes, and grant him a corresponding commission, and your Petitioners will ever pray &c. Names of Petitioners attached, on file in this Dept.

Nacogdoches 30th Sept 1838

Sam. Houston to Walker & Bright formally

Genl. A. S. Thruston
Atty General. (Memo)
Let Seventy five thousand dollars be issued in addition to what has been.
Charles S. Fowler Esqr Commissioner to run the line via Sabine declined
Charles A. Sims Esqr Indian Agent, has left Wright Esqr resigned
The appt of Mr Ruby as Sanctioned, as Consul at New Orleans.
The Deputy wells to act at the port of Brazos
Alexander Horton Collector San Augustine District vice John G. Love
to take effect 1st October instant.
The appt of a successor to Leon Collector of Sabine will be made so soon, as French there.
Col. G. W. Hockley to act as he may think fit relative to the Navy and Indian Matters.
The letter and correspondence of the Treasurer with Genl Hunt, I sincerely thank Mr Wrightman for, and admire alike his good sense, and good temper, the fault was not mine, and if Congress fails in its duty, I am not to be responsible for it, nor will anyman but a simpleton make the attempt.

The letter alluded to by Dr Irion, which he supposed was betrayed was never in my possession, but the package was rifled before it reached me, was broken and the Dispatches taken, from the War and State Departments, as well as Genl Thrustons acceptance of his appointment, all the letters which did come were broken and their contents known. Genl Douglass handed the package to the person who brought it to me.
I hope to be home from the 20th to the last of October, I am making every arrangement here that I can possibly, prior to my leaving if the Commissioners of the Loan have not power to visit London or Europe to effect it, let it be given out once, that no unnecessary delay may arise, from a want of it.

When the additional issue is made let the most pressing demands be met with it. Let Genl Hunt be paid a part of the amt due him, if not the whole &c on my arrival Home, I will make out all the forms necessary to confer the powers contemplated and directed in this memorandum.

Sam. Houston

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Kimble
relative to
translation

Galveston 1st Octr 1838

Sir

Yours of the 26th inst. was handed me this morning, and notwithstanding my anxiety to go to Houston; fearing it would be too great an interruption, to the progress of the translation, I think it will be best to send the proof sheet to be corrected here. Since I sent the quantity translated, my anxiety to spare no pains has prompted me to look over my old copy, and I have discovered two passages that require correction. They are enclosed, I shall continue my employment without cessation.

Yours with respect
J. P. Kimble.

New Orleans Octr 3rd 1838

Toby & Brother)
Receipts
relative to Archives
&c &c &c

Received from Nathaniel Townsend, the following relative to Archives, Press and seal of the Texian Consulate for the Port of New Orleans in the United States of America. viz
One Letter Book Department of State, One official letter Book
One Official Records, One Official accounts
One do Deeds of Sales, One do transfers Soldiers Bounty Land
One do Head rights, One do Powers of attorney,
One Consular Seal, One Notarice Seal Press.

T. Toby & Bro.

New Orleans 5th Octr 1838

Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State

T. Toby & Bro
Appointment
as Consul

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your favor 20th ult. conveying my appointment as Consul for this Port. The instructions therein contained will be strictly adhered to, and I shall do my best to give satisfaction to your Government. I have forwarded to Washington my commission for recognition by his Excellency the President of the United States. Mr Townsend late Consul is now absent from the City — Mr Urgent Mr Colton has handed over to me part of the Archives of his office, the ballance I shall receive on the arrival of Mr. T, who is expected on or before the first of next month.

Respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
Thos Toby & Bro.

J. Gaines
Resignation
Ch Justice Sam Houston

Shelby County Octo 5th 1838

Sir

A continuation of bad health compels me to tender to you my resignation of the office of Chief Justice.

Very respectfully
I remain your friend & humb. Servt.
Francis J. Gaines

W. W. Friggell
requesting the Hon R. A. Irion
legality of Secy of State
Land Comrs

San Augustine Octr 28.

Sir

Permit me to request you, to forward me at this place a certificate from Under your seal, Shewing that the board of Land Commissioners for the County of San Augustine are duly authorized to act as such, the expense will be settled by the law. mr Martin if anything be and much oblige yours.

I have the honor to remain
your most obt Servt.
W. W. Friggell

C. H. Forbes
praying for
a copy of
constitution
&c Laws

New York Octr 6th 1838

Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Sir

On the 2nd of August last, I addressed a letter to the Hon R. A. Irion Secretary of State with a view to obtaining a copy of the Constitution and Laws, Not having received them or any reply in relation thereto, I renewed my application to the Department of State with the same object.

This office is destitute of these documents, and they are not to be procured here. The business of the consulate and the interests of the Republic require an attention to this deficiency. I beg therefore to engage your good offices in procuring for me a copy of the Constitution and Laws, and of the Tariff and in causing the same to be forwarded me without delay.

I am Sir Very Respectfully Yr obt Svt
Charles H. Forbes, Vice Consul
of the Rep of Texas. N. York

C. M. Hitchcock
list of
passengers

Port of Galveston 6th Octr 1838

Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Sir

Accompanying please find list of passengers arrived at this Port during the Quarter ending 30th Sept 1838.

I have the honor to be
Respectfully your obt Svt
L. M. Hitchcock D. P. C

D. Balfour
resignation as
Justice Peace

County of Victoria 12th Octr 1838

Hon R. A. Irion

Sir

Allow me to tender you my redignation of the within commission of Magistrate for the County of Victoria which you will please accept and oblige yours. Respectfully
David Balfour

Houston County 13th Oct 1838

Hon R. A. Irion

J. K. Box resignation as Justice Peace

Dear Sir

From circumstances that will not permit of my serving any longer in the capacity of Justice of the Peace for this County, you will please therefore to accept of my resignation

I am Sir yours &c.
John Box.

Mustang Prairie Houston County
October 13th 1838

Hon R. A. Irion

J. Grigsby resignation as Justice Peace

Dear Sir

As Circumstances will not admit of my serving any longer as Justice of the Peace for this County. You will please therefore to accept of this as my resignation.

I am yours &c
John Grigsby

San Antonio De Bexar Octr 15th 1838

Hon R. A. Irion
Secretary of State

W. Morris relation to the murder, robbery &c of a party of Mexican Indian Deputation &c &c

Dear Sir

During the session of the District court for the County of Victoria Mr [illegible] the acting [illegible] for the Republic being absent I was requested by the [illegible] Robinson to [illegible] his time and act as district attorney [illegible] business which came up for the consideration and attention of the grand Jury and myself, a communication emanating from your department accompanied by a representation of Col. Caldwell, was presented to me for consideration, in order that I might determine what course should be adopted in relation to the conduct of some of the citizens of Goliad who [illegible] from the communication had been engaged in Robbing the [illegible] previous to the session of the court. In conformity with [illegible] I beg leave to present the following report in compliance with [illegible] request of the court and Jury.

[illegible] first [illegible] be no Court held at Goliad and [illegible] of them [illegible] to obtain a correct and impartial consideration of the [illegible] in that County [illegible] a large number of men to form a grand and petit Jury, and a large majority of them [illegible] the robbery if it be properly so called. We determined to present the business to the grand Jury of Victoria, and have the matter decided in that court [illegible] the [illegible] of the case in relation to appropriated Counties [illegible] After a long and clear investigation of the case the Jury [illegible] the following paper which [illegible]. It appears from the circumstances which were presented by Caldwell and others that a party of Americans who [illegible] started out with the express purpose of driving off Garrigo [?] and his band, who had been for sometime previ-

infesting this western frontier finding that the Mexicans had departed determined not to be balked in their enterprize and concluded to go on as they said and drive in a parcel of cattle which were represented to be on the Nenaces river on a little the other side, they enlisted a part of the Tonkenway tribe to go along with them, and on their way met with a number of Mexican traders coming into Texas, with a large number of Horses and other property, they fell upon the Mexicans stripped them of their horses and other property, and as it was represented. though there is no certain information upon this point. killed eight or nine of their number.— a division of the spoils then took place between the Indians and americans, and both parties although separated drove their Cavillardas. through the town of Goliad. The citizens of that place having previously understood from some of the Mexican traders who had come into town all the circumstances in relation to the matter. determined to seize upon the property and restore it as they said to the original owners. they consequently collected in a body, put themselves under the command of Dr Towers the member elect from that County went in pursuit of the Indians retook the Horses and brought them back to Goliad, on the day following the horses were put up for sale at public auction and were sold out, but a small portion of the money was paid in and altho some of the horses were knocked down at fifty, sixty, and even seventy dollars, it was declared that no sale was quoted upon the books at more than thirty or a much less amount than they really sold for, in other words that fraud had been practised by the salesman— They however expressed their intention to pay over the money which was due whenever the proper authorities should call for it; and seemed determined to be the judges as to the proper owners and were resolved as they said to pay it to the Mexicans. Under these circumstances grand jury refusing to do anything further with the business than to make the report which you will find enclosed.— I requested Judge Robinson to write to Baskes a justice of the peace for the County of Goliad, and request him to retain the money, which had been or should be paid over until he should receive orders as to whom it should be paid.— otherwise that he himself would be held responsible, for the amount whatever it might be, such has been the disposition of the case thus far, and no farther steps of course will be taken in the matter until the right of ownership shall be legally tried between the Mexican traders and the Tonkeway Indians.— The grand Jury have however requested me to state to your honorable Department that they consider the Americans engaged in the robbing the Mexicans were much the most reprehensible parties engaged in the business— and that they would recommend that they be brought to Justice as speedy as possible— I have not a list of the names of those americans nor have I been enabled to procure one, or it would be sent along with this communication. Whilst upon this subject, I cannot help declaring that this and many other transactions of a similar nature and sometimes even worse which are daily transpiring upon our frontier, are produced by the utterly destitute and unprotected state in which that frontier is left by our Government— Since my residence in this place which has been but a few months during... I have been compelled on one day to repel with arms Mexicans who were reported to be coming in— or another to go out and fight the Comanches and other Indians who are continually committing depredations and killing people around our town, on a third to repel a body of americans robbers who invited by unprotected condition have come out to rob and murd

there is not a night in the year when each man here does not sleep upon his arms and often he is not subject to be roused by the alarm given of the advance of the enemy. And no longer than five days since, a party of ten of the most respectable of our citizens were butchered by the Comanches within three miles of the town, such is the state of our country, and unless some speedy assistance is afforded by the Government, we will all be compelled to either cross the Guadalupe, and most probably on the other side of the Colorado.— I hope this that you will exercise whatever influence you may have, and I believe it to be great, with those in power to grant some protection to this beautiful but suffering frontier of our Republic.

With the greatest respect &c
John R. Harris

J. J. Simpson relative to the murder & robbery of a party of Mexicans

The Grand Jury for the County of Victoria convened at the September term and after examining the papers sent from the District Court relative to an alleged aggression of certain individuals of Colorado upon property said to belong to the Tonkawy Indians.— Would respectfully represent that the property in dispute was taken from a party of Mexicans who were coming to this Republic to trade a part of whom were killed by the Tonkawy Indians and those white men who were with them.— It is also an indisputable fact that the President's Proclamation was promulgated and made public before the party of Mexicans and Indians left this place to go west, and that Messrs Spohn & Wallace belonging to the aforesaid party of Mexicans, and who were in the Republic, that many of the Mexicans returned after going a short distance West of Victoria and stated that the object of many of said expedition was merely to plunder those who returned would not go in consequence of being deceived, and led to conclude from the fact that when Messrs. Hutchinson Fisher and others who stated that the object of this expedition has been defeated, that instead of going in quest of Santiago and the band of robbers it was the intention of those who remained at the Frontier to go and take the gay horses that they met, being aware of a large Cavillard to come on the road and in this they succeeded as may be seen from Col. Bullitt's communication to the Secretary of war, that they took a drove of horses, but from whom did they take them from a party of Mexicans who were in the Republic and thought themselves under the protection of this government, we would further recommend to leave the matter of prosecution and action to the district attorney, recommending however most strongly that the Ministers of Colorado be instructed to secure and retain in their hands the proceeds of the sales of the aforesaid horses, until their rights shall be made out and proven the claim, and that those persons who were concerned with the Indians in this disgraceful outrage may be brought to destruction or even that no repetition of such shameful acts may ever occur to cause insult to our character and laws in future.

Chas. A. Simpson foreman

Victoria Sept 22nd 1838.

Matagorda Octr 19th 1836.

Collingsworth
Recommendation
Referred
Clerk —

Hon M. A. Allen
Secy of State

Sir

From the recollection & arrangements I find myself unable to attend to the duties of judicial Center of this district. I therefore beg leave to return my Commission herein enclosed. Trusting that my resignation may be received.

I am Dear Sir your mo. obt. Svt.
C. M. Story

New York 22nd Oct. 1838

Consulate of Texas

Sir

I have the honor to dispatch next a few papers which have just accrued to me from the Hon. L. P. Sequestrator at Paris

Your obedient Servt
C. H. Forbes

Mobile County Oct. 27 1838

Hon. A. A. Allen
Secy of State

Dear Sir

Since you were after my return from Houston in July last but fearing you did not receive that information I have again write, as we much need the first volume of Texas laws, there has not more than five or six copies of that volume ever received yet, besides some private gentlemen that had obtained copies, please send me a few hundred copies of the first volume we are greatly embarrassed with the other law, your compliance will oblige yours &c

C. C. Sinks & Co

Republic of Texas
County of Harrisburg

To His Excellency Sam Houston President of the Republic aforesaid

The Petition of John Jamison a Citizen of the Republic aforesaid, respectfully represents to your Excellency, that on the 24th day of September 1837. he was brought to trial in the District Court of Harrisburg County, for an assault with intent to kill, & murder, upon the body of William McDermott. That he was found "guilty" of the "charge" by a jury of the County, and in pursuance of such finding, and the statute in such cases made and provided, he was fined five hundred dollars, and to remain in prison for the space of twelve months, and also, until he should pay the said fine and costs of suit. Your Petitioner would further shew unto your Excellency that he is fully satisfied that part of the order of Court which relates to his imprisonment that he is now detained in Jail to satisfy the fine and costs of suit and that is entirely unable to satisfy the same, so long as he is confined in Prison. Your Petitioner would therefore in tender Mercy pray your Excellency to cause the fine to be remitted, and your Petitioner be set free without delay. and as in duty bound Petitioner

Filed
Pardon
Recommendation of Judge
P. C. Jamison
Sale &c

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Republic of Texas
County of Harrisburg

Personally appeared before the undersigned Deputy Clerk of the District Court John D. Harrison who made oath that the facts set forth in the foregoing Petition are just and true.

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 27th day of Oct 1838

C. H. Winfield Dpty Clk
Dist Court Harrisburg County.

J. D. Harrison

The Secretary of State will attend to this by order of the President and grant a full and ample pardon.

Sam Houston

Ale. [illegible] Oct 25th 1838

Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State

Dear Friend

C. A. Taylor relative to Commd

Since start to engineer Genl Rusk on another campaign against the Indians, I think it is possible I shall be absent about a month, perhaps not so long, at all events I believe it will be the last trip I shall make for some time for should I return unharmed, I am resolved to seek a more peaceable location, by the way as I go, that I perceive comes to be the theater of noise and confusion for some years to come. I have withstood such a state of things long enough... I am now tired.

I have been very remiss in not having forwarded to you the returns of such officers as are to be commissioned by the President, if any thing will operate as an excuse, it is the fact that an officer retained his appointment but a short time, and consequently in many instances before a commission could reach this place, a writ for an election would have issued, however, nothing can excuse the omission on my part, I pray you to overlook it, and send me the commissions, as per the annexed list— nothing new of the slightest importance.

Yours truly
Chas A. A. Taylor.

A list of names accompanying the above, refer to file for them.

Mr Eldridge relative to Information

Resolved

"That the President be requested to lay before this house the entire correspondence, (not heretofore communicated) of our Government for ex. of Rep with our ministers at the Court of St James & Washington, or such portions thereof as by publication would not prove prejudicial to the public interest.

House of Representatives
7th Nov. 1838

I certify that the above is a true copy of a Resolution unanimously passed by the House on this the 7th instant.

Jno W. Eldridge
C. C. H. Repr.

T. Toby & Bro.
Relative to the Consulate of Texas.
Schooner
E. Russel.

New Orleans Nov. 14th 1838

Sir

In December last my predecessor in office forwarded a claim of Loyd, at the instance of Messrs Voglgsang & Co. of this City acting as their Agents for Detention &c of the British Schooner Eliza Russel, Messrs Voglgsang & Co. have called upon me to know if there had been any action upon it, as they have not received any information since the claim was sent down.

I am very Respect. your obt Servt.
Thos Toby & Bro.

Sam Houston
appointing
Mr. Cooke
Chief Justice

Houston Nov. 14th 1838

The Secretary of State will be pleased to appoint Mr. A. L. Cooke Chief Justice. The Court sits on Monday next.

Yours Houston

Houston Nov 15th 1838

Hon R. A. Irion
Secy of State.

Relative to
Boundary
of Wichita

Sir

I answer the queries of J. C. Wright clerk of the Court of Clarksville in Red River County, that by reference to the Boundary treaty between the Republic of Texas, and the United States, concluded on the 25th day of April last, he will find, that until the lines shall be marked out, of which due notice will be given him, each of the contracting parties continue to exercise jurisdiction in all territory over which its jurisdiction has heretofore been exercised, and that by reference to the 10th sec of an act "to raise a public Revenue by direct taxation" he will see, that all Pedlars of goods &c are required to pay for License to sell, fifty dollars, and five hundred for Vendors without License, the former recoverable before a Magistrate, the latter in the District or County Courts.

I have the honor to be &c
A. S. Thruston Atty Genl.

Houston Dec 3rd 1838

A. Rabb.
Resignation
in Congress

Sir

Owing to extreme indisposition, and under a sense of duty to myself, and Constituents, I beg leave to tender to Your Excellency this my resignation of my Seat, as a Representative in the third Congress of the Republic of Texas, from the County of Fayette.

Your will please accept my best wishes
A. Rabb.

To
His Excellency
Sam Houston

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Lake Superior, 1st Dec 1858

Hon. M. G. Foster

Sir

Your Secretary's letter of the 20th ult. was received in due course, but I have been absent from the Lake Superior Mining Districts, and only on my return home yesterday have I been able to attend to the matter referred to in your letter.

Subject of Lake Superior Copperhead

I enclose herewith a copy of the letter addressed to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, by Mr. Ross, the Agent of the Lake Superior Copper Company, and also a copy of the Report of Mr. Ross, which I have received from the Commissioner of Crown Lands, in reply to my letter to him on the subject.

Mr. Ross's letter shews that the Company have spent a large sum of money in the Township of Bruce, and have found a valuable copper lode, which they are now working, and which they have every reason to believe will be productive of great benefit to the Province, by the employment of a large number of men, and the consumption of a large quantity of provisions, which must be supplied from the Lower Provinces.

I have the honor to be
Your obedient Servant
M. McDougall

Toronto, 1st December 1858

Hon. J. Foster

Mr. McDougall's letter

Sir

I have perused your letter of the 20th ult. relative to the claim of Mr. Ross, of the Lake Superior Copper Company, for a grant of land in the Township of Bruce, and have the honor to inform you that the Commissioner of Crown Lands has directed the Agent of the Department at Sarnia to give every facility to the Company in the prosecution of their mining operations.

I have the honor to be
Your obedient Servant
M. McDougall

War Department Dec. 12th 183

Hon. B. E. Bee
Secy of State

Sir

Your note of this morning has been received, and its contents noted. It affords me pleasure to comply with His Excellency's request.

With the highest consideration & esteem
Your obt. Servt.
Chas. Mason Secy. of War

State Department
Austin Dec. 13th 1838

Hon. B. E. Bee

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge your communication of this morning, and would remark, that the Navy Department is unavoidably subject to the control of the administration, on the mean time shall take great pleasure in initiating any measures with the business of the Department should it be deemed expedient.

I have the honor to be respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
M. Lamar

Austin Dec. 24th 1838

Hon. B. E. Bee
Secy of State

Sir

Yesterday upon receiving a communication of the Navy Department, I ordered the Commandant of the Galveston station to raise the blockade of the ports of Tampico, Tuxpan, Alvarado, Tlacotalpan, Goatzacoalcos, and Campeche.

Navy Department
Austin Dec. 17th 1838

To His Excellency the President of the Mexican Congress

To the President of the Republic of Texas

Sir

On the 30th of last month these laws of the North decided for the Federal system, the movements have progressed very rapidly and unanimously, and I trust not the Republic will follow it in its Federal Congress, judging from what has already taken place. Our patriots the Guerrero, Gomez Farias, Santa Anna, Tornel, Lizardi, and others have by light, and obliging the remaining Centralists to leave the place, the same with Camargo, and Tepic. The complete triumph obtained by the Liberal party in Jalisco, over the Centralists 30th. last, the perfidious surrender of the fort of San Juan Ulua, and blockade of Vera Cruz all, all have revived the enthusiasm of the Mexicans and in fine they have settled (according to certain information I have received, & believe) to be sacrificed rather than any longer to suffer a Military despotism. The cause of liberty must

triumph, and those towns and yours will again very shortly be united in bonds of former unity. upon this flattering prospect, I can with confidence congratulate your Excellency, and would ask at your hands the following protection in your Republic, which interest (imperiously demand) that we have abandoned to take up arms. It had new cavaliers (of our praise worthy dedication) may robe and carry off our property into your County to deceive and persuade that your Government has been guided by principles of justice from its foundation. I take the liberty to request you to apprehend all persons from these parts who take mules and horses into your County for sale unless they have a passport signed by me or some one who shall have previously declared authorized. — Your seizing any property found in possession not mentioned in the passports, and retaining it until the arrival of some person sent after advice from you to take charge in order that I may pay the costs demanded. — For this just measure to preserve order, I shall be very grateful and happy to reciprocate in the same manner.

With distinguished Consideration.
I have the honor to subscribe
myself yours
Lu. Antonio Cavallero

Houston June 5th 1839

Hon R. A. Irion
Sec of State

Sir

I beg leave to tender my resignation of the office of Chief Justice of the County of Victoria

Sam Liv Your obt Servant
John Hayes

John Hayes
Resignation
as Chf Justice

Houston, June 5th 1839

Hon Secretary of State

Sir

Circumstances of a private character induce me to resign the office of Chief Justice of Galveston County, and I hereby tender my resignation

Your obedient Servant
Fenton M. Gibson C.J.G.C

F. M. Gibson
Resignation
as Chf Justice

Senate Chamber June 1839

Hon B. E. Bee
Sec of State

Sir.

Will you favor me with an Estimate in detail of the probable amount it will be required to be appropriated for the use of your Department for the current year

By order of S. H. Everett
Chairman of the Committee
on Finances
Jno. D. McLeod Secy of Senate

J. D. McLeod
Estimate to
expense of
Department

Petition praying the appointment of J.C. Campbell Chf Justice

His Excellency M. B. Lamar
President of the Republic of Texas

The petition of the undersigned citizens of the County of Gonzales, would respectfully ask of your Excellency, that you appoint James Campbell Chief Justice of this County in place of the Hon B. L. McClure resigned. The names annexed to petition on file.

Petition praying the appointment of W. P. Myers Chf Justice

To His Excellency the President of the Republic of Texas

Your Petitioners citizens of Sabine County would respectfully recommend to your Excellency Capt William P. Myers, whose a gentleman of moral worth integrity of purpose and a scholar as a suitable person to fill the vacancy occasioned by the Resignation of Francis P Gaines as Chief Justice in and for the county of Sabine, to which office your petitioners respectfully ask the appointment of William P. Myers, and as in duty bound will ever ask &c

See names annexed to petition on file

We deem it unnecessary to procure any more signers to this petition in as much as Capt. Myers has already been recommended to your Excellency by our Representative John Pierce Esq. A Chief Justice is very much wanted in this County. &c

Department of State
Houston Jany 5th 1839

Relative to the Expenses of State Dept & Land Office

An Estimate of the current expenses for the year ensuing of the Department of State, Judiciary and General Land Office.

See file for the various estimates.

House of Representatives
January 8th 1839.

Hon Secy of State

J. M. Eldridge relative to the Expenses of Congress &c

Sir

In accordance with a request received from your Department, I have the honor to submit the following statement of the expenses of the present Session of Congress, and of the present year — you will observe also that I have made provision for a called Session. —

PS See estimate annexed and on file

I have the honor to be
your obt. Servt
John M Eldridge C.C.H.R.

Ordnance Department
Houston Jany 9th 183

Hon B. E. Bee
Secy of State

Ro. Oliver relative to Ord. Dept

Sir

I am directed by the Col. of ordnance to state, that the mathematical instruments now in your office are required for this Department.

I have the honor to be
your obt. Servt
Robert Oliver

Consulate General
Havana 11th Jany 1839

C. M. Potter
Relative to the difficulty between Mexico & France and other difficulties & troubles

Hon. B. E. Bee
Secy of State

The Sloop Citizen, which sailed from this Port about twenty five days ago for Vera Cruz, having arrived thence, after six days passage on the 12th, and on the same day the Schooner Wasp, from Tampico, which she left about the Sixth, and both bringing items of intelligence, which may not yet be known at the Capitol or be known only as rumours, the Collector has thought it advisable to transmit to your Department such information as can be gathered by comparing the reports of those who have returned in those vessels with the contents of the accompanying newspapers brought by the Citizen... The summary of this information is the following

1st Confirmation of the news already received of the not ratification by the Mexican Government of Genl Mendins capitulation with the French, of the Declaration of war by Mexico against France, of Santa Anna's regular appointment to the Comandancia of Vera Cruz and of his attack on the French in which action he lost his leg.

2nd The fact of the French admiral having seized the Mexican Vessels of war lying at Vera Cruz Comt of the Corvette Iguala and the Brigs Libertad & Vencedor, and his having sold one of the latter.

3rd Confirmation of the news of an obstinate and bloody action between the Government forces under Canalizo attacking, and the Federal Forces under Urrea defending Tampico, in which the former were totally defeated

4th The pronunciamiento in favor of Federalism of the forces stationed at Matamoras.

5th The zeal and increasing strength of the Federal party and the obstinacy of the Govt and its adherents in opposing the insurrection while both in the midst of their dissentions profess a determination to resist the demands of France.

6th The probability of an interference of the British Government in the dispute between France & Mexico, from the arrival of a British Squadron at Vera Cruz.

The facts stated in the first item are mostly mentioned in the accompanying No of the Cosmopolita of the 15th Decr, in which I have marked the account of the action in Vera Cruz, and it appears from an article in one of the other numbers that Santa Anna was regularly appointed to the Command. After comparing the Mexican account with the reports of those who have arrived, and making due allowance for exaggeration in the former, it seems that Santa Anna's achievement amounts to this. He received his appointment with a notice of the declaration of war on the 4th Decr. and repaired immediately to Vera Cruz, which was then a kind of neutral ground, the Prince de Joinville & the French admiral being at the time in town relying on the faith of the Capitulation. Santa Anna kept secret his communication and treacherously meditated seizing their persons, but they happened to retire in time to frustrate his design, which they afterwards learned. On the dawn of the following day, after

the declaration of war had been announced, the Prince at the head of a body of troops and marines surprized the town with a view of capturing Santa Anna which he was near accomplishing in person. The Genl, however adroitly escaped from his quarters after the Prince had entered them, and hastening to put the Mexican Garrison and some of the remaining populace under arms, attacked the French as they were retiring to one of their steamers, which retreat they effected under cover of a cannonade from the Castle & Ships. Near the close of this action Santa's left leg was shattered by a grape shot in a manner which made it necessary to amputate the limb below the knee. In this action the advantage of numbers is said by my informants to have been greatly in favor of the Mexicans, though the contrary is asserted in their prints.

Since this affair no other hostilities had occured at Vera Cruz. The French showed no disposition to occupy the town which was entirely deserted by its inhabitants, but contained a few Mexican troops whom the French did not permit to show themselves on the works. Santa Anna was doing well when the citizens left Vera Cruz: his conduct and still more the personal injury he had received had made so strong an impression on the public mind in his favor, that there was some prospect of his recovering his former popularity and influence. The circumstance respecting the Mexican Vessels as stated by the passengers of the Citizen to have been were known in Vera Cruz, and I think may be relied on.

The account of the attack on Tampico and its result is contained in the No of the 12th of Decr, and accompanying, an appeal from Urrea to Bustamente after the Victory.— The report of Genl Piedras having been shot after his capture was believed to be true in Vera Cruz, and was said to have been done as an act of reprisal for the death of some insurgent officers who had been executed by the Government authorities. The Pronunciamiento of the troops in Matamoras is mentioned in the same No as an event to be expected from what had occured in the Vicinity. That it has actually taken place, I think may be relied on, as Capt Thompson of the Wasp, who left Commsazo about the 6th inst, saw there several persons from Matamoras who informed him that such was the fact and that Filisola had fled from the place.

The state of parties referred to in No 5 portending a long session of Commission to Mexico even should her contest with France be cut short may be learned from the spirit of her public prints as well as from the facts which have occured. The arrival at Vera Cruz about the 28th Dec of an English Squadron which consisted of eight Sail, and was expected to be greatly augmented was looked upon by the foreigners of the place and by certain American Naval officers in Port as indicating an interition on the part of the British government to interfere in the existing contest, though as yet nothing transpired which could give foundation to aught save conjecture.

The Prince de Joinville with three or four Vessels sailed for Europe a few days after the action in town, leaving in Squadron some fifteen or twenty sail mostly sloops of war and 18s

I regret that I have not

translations of the principal articles in the accompanying numbers.—

The foregoing Statements may perhaps contain nothing that you will not have already learned, and the probability that some portion of the information may not from other sources reach you before this is the only apology I can offer for the length of the communication.

I have the honor to be &c
Reuben M Potter D.P.C.

Consulate of the Republic of Texas
New Orleans Jany 14th 1839

Wm Bryan
relative to his
Consulaship
in N. Orleans

Sir

I have the honor to advise you, that upon my arrival here I duly forwarded the despatches enclosed to me, to your Minister at Washington and to the Consulate at New York, the latter to be forwarded by the first conveyance to England,

I also at the same time forwarded my Commission to Washington to obtain my exequatur. Mr Toby delivered to me the seal of the office on the 7th, on the 8th, the archives of the Consulate, a copy of the receipt I send with this, on an examination of the Books, I find no statement of fees received no record of Vessels, nor any accounts entered since the appointment of Mr Toby, and but a few copies of attested documents, I shall therefore be obliged to commence the accounts of the Consulate as named in my instructions from the 7th inst. I must earnestly request of your department to be advised of laws passed in the present Congress, relative to the Tariff and Commercial affairs, as it will be impossible from the enquiries made of me, as consul, to give satisfaction unless fully advised of the acts of the Government and wishes of the Executive,

P.S Recpt. of the archives annexed to the above on file

I have the honor to be &c
W Bryan Consul

To
Hon B. E. Bee
Secy of State

Port of Galveston 15th Jany. 1839.

Hon B. E. Bee
Secy of State

G Borden=
List of
passengers

Sir

Herewith I transmit to you a list of passengers arrived at this port during the quarter ending 31st Decr. 1838

Your mo obt. Servant
G Borden Late Collector

Seguin=
closing
Bond of
County
Surveyor

San Antonio 17th Jany 1839.

Sir

Yours dated 27th December last inclosing a commission for the County Surveyor of the County of Bexar, was received in due time, and on the 14th inst Mr Lindsey gave his bond and security, and was duly sworn into office when I delivered to him his commission accordingly. which I have the honor to communicate to you for your information

Respt. yours &c Erasmo Seguin

T. J. Stansbury
Printing laws.
Journals &c: Hon B. E Bee
Secy of State.

Ordnance Department
Houston Jany 21st 1839

Sir

I am ordered by the Col. of ordinance, to request you to furnish for the use of this Department, so far as practicable the Laws of the Republic and the journals of Congress.

I have the honor to be &c
Thos J. Stansberry Clerk O. D.

J. L. Hamilton
enclosing Consular Bond

Charleston 21st Jany 1839

Hon Barnard E. Bee
Secy of State

Dear Sir

I take pleasure in enclosing my Consular Bond which I hope will be found in order.— I cannot let this opportunity pass, without returning you my sincere thanks for your kindness in procuring me said office and hope that my actions may be so guided as to fill it with credit to myself, as well as to the Government which I have the honor of representing.

Believe me dear Sir &c
J. Lynch Hamilton

R. M. Williamson
Resignation as District Judge

Houston 22nd Jany 1839

Hon. Secretary of State

The Undersigned District Judge of the third Judicial district of the Republic aforesaid, begs leave to suggest through your department his resignation, no other considerations than those of an individual character better calculated to facilitate national and individual justice could have induced me to pursue this course at the present important crisis, that I have labored faithfully to discharge the duties of the trust confided to me will appear from the records of the Judiciary.

That I will labor still upon the same basis of Individual and national Justice, I trust will soon be made apparent to the various departments of the nation. I would add that I cheerfully sustain the leading principles of the present administration as already declared upon. and beg the kindly indulgence thereof in this my behalf.

With sentiments of regard &c.
R. M. Williamson D. Judge

W. Bryan
relative to his notary &c

New Orleans 24th Jany. 1839

Hon Barnard E. Bee
Secretary of State

Sir

I had the honor to advise you under date January 12th in duplicate) of my assuming the seal of Consul on 7th which I trust has duly come to hand.

I would respectfully &c

attention to the following questions in relation to my official duties.— I am often called upon to act as Notary in drawing transfer Deeds of lands situated in eastern Texas, of the signatures to the titles of which I am totally unacquainted and also in some cases of lands on the sea board, as you well know there are many spurious claims in circulation, I would enquire if the Consulate would be considered officially accountable to the Government, should there be an error of judgement in drawing a deed of sale certifying or attesting such spurious documents, being doubtful on the subject, I have thus far declined drawing such instruments and confined myself to attesting signatures only, by giving me early advice on this subject you will confer a personal favor.

I have the honor to be &c
Wm Bryan Consul

Galveston January 24th 1839

J. K. Dawson resignation as Judge of the Peace

Hon Secretary of State

Sir

As it is not my intention to remain here much longer. I consider it my duty to apprize you thereof in time. that proper steps may be taken to fill the office. I hold as Justice of the peace for the County of Galveston.— I shall feel obliged for an early acceptance of this my resignation, there is no other acting Justice at this time in the County, and until one shall be ready to act. I am at a great inconvenience constrained to do the duties of the office. but if I should be unexpectedly called away as well as my associate in office who has resigned in any case of emergency great evils might arise from there being no conservator of the peace for the County.

I am Sir with great respect
Jacob K. Dawson

San Augustine Jany 27th 1839

Geo Lane resignation as District Attorney

To His Excellency
M. B. Lamar

Sir

Some short time since I had the honor of receiving from His Excellency Sam Houston the appointment of district attorney for the first Judicial district, not knowing whether this appointment has been notified to the Senate, or if notified not knowing whether it has, or has not been concurred in, allow me with feelings of great respect for your services and character to offer to you my resignation of that office, as circumstances of a private character require that I should do so.

As it is customary for those who resign an office to introduce some name on which it may be conferred, I would independent of this custom present to you the name of my respected friend Frederick W. Ogden Esqr. of this place, a gentleman of some considerable legal attainments, whose name was spoken of for the office when I received the appointment, and ask the office to be conferred on him.

Respect yours. George Lane

M. B. Lamar
Commission
D. Holt
Notary Public

Houston 28th Jany. 1839

The Secretary of State will prepare a Commission for David Holt as Notary Public for Brazoria County.

Mirabeau B. Lamar

Matagorda Jany. 30th 1839

Judge Webb

Dear Sir

A. C. Norton
Rec'd

This will be handed to you by my friend Col. Chas. Howard a Citizen of our town who is about leaving for your City, any attention shown by you to Col. H. will be reciprocated by your friends.

and obedt. Servt.
A. C. Norton

M. B. Lamar
Commissions
E. M. Eddy & G. A. Patillo
Notaries Public

Houston 1st Feby 1839

The Secretary of State will prepare commissions for Zenas W. Eddy & Eddy and George A. Patillo as Notaries Public of the County of Jefferson.

Mirabeau B. Lamar

Houston 5th Feby 1839

M. B. Lamar
Comm. J. Smith as Ne. Ds. Stock

The Secretary of State will prepare a Commission for Jackson Smith as Stock Commissioner in the place of Fred. K. Stegg resigd.

Mirabeau B. Lamar

Nacogdoches 16th Jany. 1839

T. J. Rusk
acceptance of the Office of Chief Justice

Dear Col.

I have just this moment received a notification of my election as Chief Justice and avail myself of this occasion to signify to you my acceptance of the office. I have just returned from Red River much exhausted, I will write you all in a day or two fully and will be at Houston myself shortly.

I am Sir truly your friend
Thos. J. Rusk.

M. B. Lamar
appointing Jas. Webb

Houston 6th Feby 1839

The Chief Clerk in the State Department will prepare a Commission for James Webb as Secretary of State in the place of Barnard E. Bee resigned.

Mirabeau B. Lamar.

Sec. of State

Jasper Feby 10th 1839

J. Mott
Resignation of Chf Justice

Sir

Sometime previous I tendered my resignation as Chief Justice of the County of Jasper to your Excellency through the Sec. of State believing the same would reach the Department before adjournment of Congress and thinking the recommendation of a successor more properly belonged to the members of Con-

presume to make any remark on any person calculated to take the place but believing at this time my resignation did not arrive in time and supposing you now perhaps any of your Cabinet may have personal acqu=aintance with the Citizens of Jasper County I beg leave to mention John Bevil Esqr. as a person I think would discharge the duties of the office correctly and who will accept the appointment.

I remain Sir with due respect
Joseph Mott

Clarksville Feby 1839

Hon Barnard E. Bee
J. T. Harmon
relative to
Co. Surveyor

Dear Sir

After I received my Commission and gave my bond for the performance of my duty. I seen a letter to Judge Tarrant, it is dated the 3rd Jany 1838 and mentions Jefferson Milams name, but from the reading it is possible, it was wrote in relation to my Commission. I am desirous to do nothing but the wishes of the Government, I have stopped the Surveyor, and shall wait your further order, it is not the wish of the people of this County that the business of should be stopped, but will perhaps be quiet for a reasonable time, untie they know the authority the Land offices closes under.

Your with respect
J. T. Harmon

P. O. Lumpkin
declining
his acceptance
of the Office
of Chf Justice

Crockett Houston County
February 12th 1839

His Excellency
M. B. Lamar

Dear Sir

I had the honor to receive from your Exc=ellency a few days since a Commission as Chief Justice of the County of Houston, I hope Sir that I feel a proper spirit of gratitude for the honor intended, but from the unsettled state of the Country, and the great pecun=iary losses which I, in common with other citizens have sustained, it has become necessary for me to devote every moment of my time to my own domestic Concerns, and under existing circumstances I cannot acc=ept of the office proposed without a greater sacrifice of my own and the interest of my family than I conceive would be compatible with justice to this.— This being the case you will please accept my thanks for the honor intended, whilst at the same time I would respectfully resign the office bestowed by your kindness and partiality.

I am Sir with the highest consideration
P. O. Lumpkin

A. Forbes
Consular
returns &
Bond of
Office —

Consulate of the Republic of Texas
New York Feby 13th 1839.

Hon. Barnard E. Bee
Secretary of State

Sir

Pursuant to instructions recently received at

this Consulate, I have the honor to make the enclosed returns conforming thereto, as nearly as was possible, to the instructions. Future returns made by me will be precise.— The recent visit of the Hon J Woodward, now or lately Consul general, to Texas, will probably have apprized the Government of the situation of affairs here.— Texas is now regarded in this Community with a favorable interest. The promissory notes of the new emission are currently sold at 50 per cent. Most of the applications at this consulate have reference to contemplated emigration. It is supposed that the recent act of Congress relative to emigrants will greatly increase the number of such applications. I would suggest the expediency of furnishing this office with copies of such documents and papers as may serve to impart information in regard to the condition of the Country with an additional copy of each to be deposited in the public Library in this city.— I also herewith transmit my official Bond executed by myself alone. On being relieved here by the return of the consul General I purpose visiting Texas when I shall add such Sureties, residents of Texas, as may be required, I have been formally recognized by this Government

With great respect Yr obt Svt.
Charles H. Forbes Vice Consul.

P.S. Bond and returns accompanying the above on file.

Prewett praying the appointment of D. McMahon Chf Justice

Jasper County 7th Feby 1839

His Excellency
M B Lamar

The undersigned petitioners would represent unto your Excellency, that Joseph Mott Chief Justice of Jasper County has resigned his seat as such, the citizens of said County experiences a great inconvenience for want of a Chief Justice, our County Courts are unorganized and his services as Chief Justice Ex officio Notarial acts are in constant demand &c And we the Undersigned would recommend to your Excellency David McMahon he is a man of good moral character and well qualified to fill the office of Justice of said County.

(Signed) William Prewett

Cummings and D. Wade praying the appointment of W. Wadham Chf Justice

Colorado County

His Excellency
M B Lamar

Your petitioners respectfully sheweth and representeth unto your Excellency that the present County Judge of the aforesaid County is desirous of tendering his resignation, and inasmuch as it is indispensable to the well being of the County, to have the office vacated by him filled immediately by another incumbent, your petitioners beg leave with all due respect to recommend to the favorable consideration of your Excellency Willard Wadham Esqr a resident citizen of the town of Columbus, to fill said vacancy hoping that your Excellency will extend to them this relief, and such other and further relief, as the nature of the case may require, and as to your Excellency may seem best and proper, and as in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray &c.

(Signed) James Cummins
(Signed) David Wade

210
Wm Bryan
relation to the
Seal of the
Republic.
Mexican Flags
do do

Consulate of the Republic of Texas
New Orleans 17th Feby 1839

Hon B. E. Bee
Sec of State

Sir

By the Steam Packett New York I forward the great Seal of the Republic, which I trust will meet with your approbation, it is not engraved quite so well as the Engraver promised to do it, should it not meet your views, you will please return the same— enclosed I forward the account for the Seal and the wafers, the Letters sent by Cuba— the flags are now in hand, and part of them will be finished in time to forward by the Cuba on the 22nd.

Your Respectfully
Wm Bryan Consul

W. W. Frizzle
praying the
appoint. of
J. C. Brooks
Chf Justice

New Augustine 17th Feby 1839

To His Excellency. M. B. Lamar
President of the Republic of Texas.

Sir

We the Undersigned practising attornies in this place, take the liberty by letter, to represent unto your Excellency that this County remains destitute of a Chief Justice, in consequence of no legal appointment having been made during the last term of Congress by Confirmation or otherwise... We would further beg leave to represent unto your Excellency that the affairs of the County require that some person suitable be appointed so soon as practicable.— We the Undersigned would therefore beg leave to recommend unto your Excellencys favorable consideration Col. John C. Brooks of this place as a suitable person to fill said office being a gentleman of sober, honest and industrious habits, and well qualified in other respects to discharge the duties of Chief Justice for this County.

We have the honor to remain
Signed W. W. Frizzle

Wm Bryan
relation to
Flags---

Consulate of the Republic of Texas
New Orleans 23rd Feby 1839

Hon Barnard E. Bee
Secretary of State

Sir

My last respects was under date 17th inst accompanying the great Seal, which I gave in charge of Captain Wright of the Steam Ship New York— in which I also informed you that in all probability I should forward the flags by the Cuba, the contract was given out, but owing to the scarcity of Bunting in the market I am unable to forward them by this conveyance, I fear that I shall have to send to the North for the Bunting as our market is entirely bare of the article.

Yours Respectfully
Wm Bryan Consul

Price - Victoria County
Saying the 24th Feby 1839
Appointt of

We the Undersigned Citizens of the County of Victoria recommend our fellow-citizen James L. Owen as a suitable person to fill the office of Justice of Chief Justice in the place of Mr Hays resigned

(Signed) John Price

To
Hon Secretary of State

H. Millard
Relative to the Journals of H. of Representatives & Laws &c

Beaumont Feby 25th 1839

Hon Secretary of State

Sir

Your communication of the 7th inst. was duly received and I have the pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of three sealed packages containing journals of the House of Representatives &c.

Respect. Henry Millard

P.S. Please forward me the acts of Congress making the County Courts, the board of land Commissioners for their respective Counties.

H. Millard

Wm Bryan
Relative to Ribbon and Paper

Consulate of the Republic of Texas
New Orleans Feby 25th 1839

Hon Secretary of State

Sir

Yours of 13th came duly to hand yesterday, the orders for the ribbon and paper have been executed and are duly forwarded by this boat in the (New York) the other articles will be sent forward by the next Boat, there not being time by this.

I have the honor to be &c
Wm Bryan Consul

Wm Bryan (& others)
Relative to the Briggs Pocket & Durango -

Consulate of the Republic of Texas
New Orleans Feby. 28th 1839

Hon Secretary of State

Sir

My attention has been directed to the Treaty published by proclamation on the 6th. November 1838. by which the Government stipulates to pay for losses arising from the capture of the Briggs Pocket and Durango. In my letter to the Executive under date of June 11th 1836 while acting as agent, I advised them that all demands against the government arising from the capture of the Pocket with citizens of the U States had been settled. I have now the honor to enclose to you the copies of the original certificates in my office, with the exception of the Bill of Sale of the said Brig, which is on record with Mr Christy Notary Public. You will perceive a demand has been twice made upon the Government for a large part of the amount as now advise you, that the Executive may act upon the subject they think proper. In my communication of May 30th 1836 I advised the Executive, that I had Bailed Capt. Brown of the

on the suit of the suit of the Louisiana State Marine Insurance Co for nine thousand Dollars, referring for particulars to my letters of 10th 18th 19th & 21st of the same month, the suit at now pending in the United States District Court, I wish to ascertain of the Executive if any diplomatic arrangement has been made with the United States in regard to the settlement of that claim made by the Insurers of the Cargo of the Pocket, or if any claim has been made upon the Government of Texas for the value of the Cargo. I am in possession of the necessary documents forwarded by the late Executive to carry on the suit, but would urge upon you the necessity of giving me all the information in the suit in your power

I have the honor to be
Wm. Duncan Crouse

State of Louisiana
City of New Orleans

Be it known that this day before me, William Christy a Notary Public in and for the said City and Parish of New orleans duly commissioned and qualified — Personally came and appeared Elisah Hawes, Master and owner of the Brig Pocket who declared that for and in consideration of the sum of fifteen hundred Dollars to him in hand paid by William Bryan and Edward Hall acting in their capacity as Agents of the Government of Texas, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, he does by these presents abandon all claims which he Hawes may have against the said Government of Texas or against Capt Brown of the armed schooner Invincible or against any other person or persons whatsoever for damages which have already arisen or which may hereafter arise to him either on account of demurrage or for and on account of the late detention of his vessel the said Brig Pocket by him the said Capt Brown and others, which Brig was boarded by the said Capt Brown off the Port of Matamoras and taken into the Bay of Galveston where she now is.

Thus done and passed in my office at the said City of New orleans in the presence of H G. Latham, and W. C. Reynolds, witnesses who hereunto sign their names with the said appearer and me the said Notary on this tenth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and thirty six.

original signed = E Hawes = H G Latham = H C Reynolds.
Wm Christy Not Pub.

General Agency office
New Orleans May 11th 1836

Received of William Bryan General Agent for the Texas Government one hundred and thirty four dollars being amount in full of all demands against the schooner Invincible her officers and crew for articles Sold &c

witness to signing
Samuel Ellis

Signed Alex Humphrey

List of articles taken from E Hawes by the officers and men left in charge of the Brig Pocket by the authorities of the government of Texas
one Spy Glass $12, one Quadrant $15, one Gent chart $6 one chart west India Islands Spanish main $6 one brass hanging compass $7 one No binnacle compass $15 one musket $3 one pair pistols $4 1 dozen Shirts $12 one the Epitome of Navigation $4 the american coast pilot $4 one pen knife $1 81 Sheath Knife 75¢.

Victory of the Greek revolution $1 — do of England $1 — two hats $6 — three pair shoes $2 — one brass canon gun $12 — 1 Ship Bill $8 —

aggregate amt $108.75

New orleans May 14th 1836

Received of William Bryan Genl. Agent for Texas one hundred dollars the same being for articles of personal property left by me on the Brig Pocket at Galveston which sum is in full for all demands against the schooner Invincible her officers and crew, arising from the detention of the Brig Pocket by the Texas Government

(signed) Elijah Hanes

The receipt is endorsed on the back of the above bill

New orleans 14th May 1836

Received of William Bryan Gen. Agent of Texas three hundred and fifty dollars being in full of all damages sustained by me, by the capture of the Brig Pocket off the Port Matamoras by the Schr. Invincible Capt. Brown, and also in full of all demands against the Government of Texas and the officers and crew of said Schooner

Witness to signing
Samuel Collins

(Signed) John W Waterhouse

New orleans May 13th 1836

Received of Wm Bryan Gen. Agent of Texas seventy nine dollars for the purpose expressed in the above receipt

(Signed) C. Anderson

Witness to signing the above receipt being read to him
Samuel Collins

New orleans May 13th 1836

Received of Wm Bryan Gen Agent of Texas twenty three dollars for the purpose expressed in the above receipt

Witness
Saml. Collins

(Signed) James F. Doherty
his mark

Government of Texas.

For
To cannon Sent Congress for passage from Galvest. $20.00

New orleans 16th May 1836

Received payment from the Agency of Texas as per the note

Government of Texas

For
To cannon Sent Congress for passage

To Captain Hoare of the Brig Pocket for passage from New orleans to Galvest. $20.00
his mate 20 00
4 sailors 40 00
$80 00

New orleans 16th May 1836

Received payment for note from the agency of Texas
J Brent Cooke.

New orleans 28th Feby 1[illegible]

The above is true copies from the originals now in my possession
Wm Bryan

214

E. Mallon
acceptance
of the appoint.
as District
Judge

New Orleans 28 Feby 1839

Hon. Forsyth

Sir

I am in receipt of your letter dated 18 Sept. informing me of my appointment, as one of the district judges of this city. The duties of which have been performed by the Commissioners, though the business of the district has been very much increased, — It affords me pleasure to express the most entire satisfaction to know that the appointment was made by an Author who is at once my superior in station and respect, and with most generally with the approbation of the people of the great Federal District.

Since I have been to write
to the Senate

Mr. Mar 1st 1839

Hon Secy of State

H. Alvin
Walker to
Laws &c

Sir

I am of the 7th Feby came to hand, in the same you state that there are three several packages containing Journals directed to the Chief Justice of this County and requests to write whether or not the same had been received we say in answer that there have not been received we are entirely without a law in instant part or our Law (viz) the first Volume, be so good as to forward the same to the Post office of this place and do favor us with every necessary document we stand in need of in your Hon Department.

Harrison Owen Co Clk
By order of Chief Justice

Colorado County
March 1839.

W. E. Heard
Resignation
as Chf Justice

Hon Secretary of State

Dear Sir

Having served as Chief Justice for the County of Colorado for some time past but finding it very troublesome in consequence of the great distance that I live from the County seat which is about thirty five miles. I therefore offer my resignation to His Excellency the President, and hope that he will appoint another as soon as convenient, accompanying this communication you will find a Petition from a number of the citizens of Colorado County to have Wm William Wadham appointed to fill the office of Chief Justice, my opinion that he is well qualified to fill the office and believe it would give general satisfaction to the citizens of Colorado County.

I remain with
great respect your
most obt Servant
William E. Heard

J. B. Ransom
relative to
appointing
E. Waller
Govt Agent
for the City
of Austin

Executive Department
Houston Mar 2nd 1839

Mr Edwin Waller

Sir

His Excellency the President has instructed me to inform you, that he will confer on you the appointment of Government Agent, for the New City of Austin the future Capitol of the Republic, and that he solicits an interview with you upon the subject as soon as practicable, preparatory to the necessary arrangements &c.

With due regard &c.
J. B. Ransom Priv. Secretary.

Hon Sec of State

Houston. March 21st 1839

Dear Sir

Col Edwin Waller has called for his commission and Bond and I take the liberty of referring him to you for that purpose.

Respectfully yours
J. B. Ransom Pri Sec.

R. D. Johnson
relative to the
resignation of
J. K. Beaumont
County

City of Galveston Mar 4th 1839

Hon Secretary of State

Sir

Allow me very respectfully to ask of your Department whether or not the resignation of Jacob K. Beaumont associate Justice of this County tendered sometime since has been accepted, my object is, if it has not been accepted, to order a new election. I acknowledge the receipt of the several journals transmitted me from your Department

Very Respectfully
R. D. Johnson C.I.G.C.

E. Seguin
relative to
laws &c

San Antonio 5th Mar 1839.

Hon Sec of State

Sir

Your dated 7th Feby 1839. is at hand and in answer to the same, the packages you mention has not as yet come to hand but so soon as they do I will notify you of the same. a report in answer to the second part of your letter will be found by a return this day made and forwarded

Respectfully yrs.
Erasmo Seguin C.I.B.C.

A. H. Barnard
transmitting
Bond of
Officers

Richmond 5th Mar 1839.

Hon James Webb
Sec of State

Sir

Accompanying this I forward to your office the Bond of the President & Clerk of the Board of Land Commissioners.

Lam
Engrs

which have been duly recorded in my office according to law, also the Bond of Randle Jones former President of the Board of Land Commissioners and of W. H. Pool former Clerk of the Board and the oaths of the former Commissioners, as the same came into my hands from the former clerk of the Board.

Respectfully yours
Joseph S Barnard Clk. L.B.C.

Matagorda March 6th 1839.

His Excellency the President
of the Republic of Texas.

P. Masina
wishing to
borrow a
levelling instrument from
Govt &c

The Colorado Navigation Co. being about to institute a series of examinations relative to the contemplated improvement of the River have been disappointed in receiving a proper levelling instrument from the United States as expected, Unless they can procure one for the time being, the operations of the Engineers will be much impeded, and the all important prompt prosecution of their work will be delayed. The Company have endeavored to procure a suitable instrument for their temporary use from other sources but have failed, Knowing that the government have an instrument of the kind wanted which is not at present in use they take the liberty to request the use of it, for the time being. It will be in the hands of an experienced Engineer, Mr W. D. Wallach, who will put it and keep it in first rate order. This Company pledge themselves to return it when called for or sooner, if the instrument expected arrives shortly, We will be obliged to your Excellency, for an answer as soon as possible

Respectfully &c
P. Masina
Pres. of Col. Navigation Co.

By order of the Board of Directors
W Donaldson Secretary

P. Cole
Journal of
Congress &c

Washington 7th March 1839.

Hon Sec of State

Sir

I am in receipt of the packages containing the journals of Congress &c. mentioned in your last letter came

I am dear Sir with sentiments &c
J. P. Cole C. S. W. C.

Bryan
Letter to
Seal.
Flags
&c

Consulate of the Republic of Texas
New Orleans 9th Feby 1839.

Hon Barnard E. Bee
Secy of State

Sir

Your several communications under dates of the 24th 28th and 30th Ult. have come duly to hand and the contents attended to the great seal of the Republic and the new flags, are all at present in the hands of the workman; and will be forwarded to the Department of State with all possible dispatch By the Steam Ship Cuba, I forward a few large wafers, and will forward the balance suited to the new seal so soon as the same is engraved.

Respectfully yours
Wm Bryan Consul

N.B. The communication for the Hon A. Jones, I forwarded to Washington per mail on the 5th inst and the one for the Hon J. Pinckney Henderson will be dispatched by the first conveyance to Havre.

New orleans Mar 9th 1839

Hon Secy of State

Mr Bryant relative to Books &c

Sir

I have the honor to advise you that the Books required in your order of Feby 13th have been forwarded by the Cuba, they are the best I could find, if they do not meet your wishes you will please return them.

I have the honor to be &c
William Bryan Consul.

Mr Stanford praying to be appointed com.r to run the boundary between US & Texas

Shelbyville 11 Mar. 1839

Hon Barnard E. Bee
Secy of State

Dear Sir

I drop you a line in haste to request that you occasionally correspond with me on the subject of our foreign relations &c I call your attention to our boundary line and remark that the 12th of October next the Convention will expire by its own limitation and this Summer will be the only time from the nature of the country through which the line must pass to run it as well as from the shortness of the time in which the Convention has to run I am an applicant for that commission myself as perhaps I hinted to you before I left Houston, and if my application should be successful I should be pleased if you would be so good as to let me know as long a time before the time to meet the Commissioner on the part of the U.S. as practicable, that I may be in the interim preparing myself for the task, there are some here that wish to find fault of our Lamar but we put them to shame.

with sentiments of pure esteem &c
John McStanford

R.G. Dunlap relative to refunding tonnage collected from vessels of the U States

Treasury Department
Houston Mar 13th 1839

To the Collectors of Customs

The Treaty between Mexico and the U States is recognized as being in force and binding from the fifth day of April 1838 you have heretofore been instructed from this Department to refund ac tonnage duties collected from Vessels of the United States of North America, from the 23rd June last. You will refund to the Captains masters or owners of Vessels belonging to the United States ac tonnage collected at your Port from the fifth April 1838, and report the to this Department with your quarterly returns.

I am &c

Letter
resignation
Chief
Justice

Texarma Mar 16th 1839.

Hon. James Webb
Sec of State

Sir

I herewith tender to you my resignation of the office of Chief Justice of Jackson County, hoping that His Excellency the President will accept of the same.

Very Respectfully &c
Patrick Usher

R. G. Dunlap
relative to
Tonage
duties-

Treasury Department
March 14th 1839.

Hon James Webb
Sec of State

Sir

In reply to your note relative to the tonnage duties, collected from American Vessels, I have the honor to transmit you a copy of a letter of the late Secretary of the Treasury of the 9th December last and of one of the 13th ins directed from this Department to the Collectors of Customs.

I am with due respect &c
R. G. Dunlap Sec Treas

Praying
for a
Chf Justice
for Sabine
County-

Saline County 17th Mar 1839

Hon Secretary of State

Sir

As one of the citizens of Sabine County, who in common with others is suffering for the want of a Chief Justice for our County, beg leave to call your attention to that subject. I was greatly surprized as every body else was, to perceive a letter come by last mail directed to Francis J. Gaines Esq. as Chief Justice, who you yourself, announced his resignation to Congress prior to its adjournment. This letter was from the War office, dated as late as the 15th Feby. requiring him to organize the Militia. This cannot be done before another appointment, and we are in a perfectly lawless state, no authority to swear in our Sheriff elect or receive his bond or swear in other officers. We understand another person was recommended to the President by our late Representative to Congress Mr Payne for what reason the nomination has not been acted on, is not for us to say

With high respect
(Signed) one of the people.

Robinson
Sir
Texas

Texarma Mar 17th 1839

His Excellency M. B. Lamar
President of the Republic of Texas

Dear Sir. My friend Judge Patrick

Mr McIntire
chf Justice

Usher this moment has informed me that he has resigned the office of Chief Justice of Jackson County— And my friend and yours Capt Thomas H. McIntire of this place is the best appointment that you can make, (in my opinion) to fill the Vacancy. Capt Mc Commanded a company in the battle of San Jacinto, as you may know, and behaved well, he is now married to the Widow of Capt Westover, who fell with our friend Col Fanning— Capt, Mc, is an exemplary man, sober and Moral, I am not aware of there being any Candidate for the office, nor is Capt Mc, but he would accept the same if conferred on him by you. This I say for your private ear. Nothing new in this quarter, except that some Americans fired on a small party of three men and a few squaws and children of the Tonkeways a few days since, and wounded one Indian, I hope not mortally, the circumstances I have not learned when I do you shall be advised.

Your friend
I. W. Robinson

P.S. It is important on account the business in the Court that an appointment should be made soon
I. W. Robinson

W. Smith
accepting
the appoint.
of Consul
for the Port
of Mobile

Mobile Ala. Mar 18th 1839

Hon James Webb
Secy of State

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a Commission as Consul at this port, for the Republic; and at the time I signify my acceptance, I beg to express my grateful acknowledgements for this testimonial of favor from the Republic. Being unadvised of the residence near the Government at Washington of a Minister, or other Diplomatic Agent of the Republic, I have transmitted direct to the Secretary of State my Commission, to be laid before the President, that the usual Exequartor may be issued, in order that I may assume the duties. I transmit herewith a bond partly executed. Major James H Cooke who leaves here designing to become a citizen of Texas, and residing at Galveston, will be one of my sureties, and will procure his partner, or some other person to become the other. If this be acceptable the bond can be transmitted to the Collector at Galveston for its completion.

With considerations of the highest
Walter Smith

D. B. Cook
Comm.
Returned
not correct

Liberty march 19th 1839

Hon James Webb
Sir

Enclosed I return the Commission forwarded by your Department for Mr Wallace as justice of the Peace, Mr Wallace elected Constable of beat No 2 and not a justice of the peace, other Commissions were delivered there being no [illegible] that of Mr Roberts, I return that also.

20

St Roberts. The P. in my name is also omitted, I presume it is necessary that the commission should correspond with the record in your office.

Respect your obt Servt
M. Blair

Galveston 20th Mar 1839

Dr Johnson
Election Hon James Webb
returns Sec of State

Sir

Agreeably to the returns of an election held in this County on the 14th ult for city officers, John M Allen was duly elected Mayor and James McKnight Recorder the Charter authorizes the President to commission the Mayor and recorder as Justices of the peace during the term for which they were elected — you will therefore please forward them commissions as soon as it will suit your convenience.

I have the honor to be &c
R D Johnson Co. A G. C

P.S. the election was not held on the day required by law on account of the Charter not being received in time

R. D. J.

Wm Bryan
Relation to Hon James Webb
Corr dang
Letters &c

New Orleans 20 Mar 1839

Dear Sir

Your favor of the 14th inst has been duly received and the two letters inclosed I have forwarded per mail according to your instructions. I shall at all times be happy to attend to any business you may be pleased to entrust to my care, all letters that may come into my hands shall be regularly forwarded, and the postages paid, for which purpose I have an acc on my books. I have received this a Mr Hale an order for a buggy, I cannot find one with a cotton top, but have found one with a leather top for $225 cash, which is the lowest price that kind is sold for in this City with Lamps and Harness Complete.

Yours Respectfully
Wm Bryan

Bexar Mar 22nd 1839

Dr Sayuiz
Endorsed Hon Secretary of State
To receive
Packages
&c

Sir

The three packages alluded to in your of the 7th February last arrived by the last mail and is on hand

Your Obedt Servt
Francisco Ruiz

Jos H. Starr
Resignation
as Commr
in charge
of property
of Rebellious
Citizens—

Nacogdoches Mar 22.

Gentlemen

Owing to circumstances relating to myself, I am under the necessity of tendering to you a resignation of the trust reposed in me by the Hon Congress in appointing me one of the Commissioners to take charge of the property of those engaged in the late rebellion in this County.— Feeling it the duty of every citizen to perform such part as may be assigned him in the administration of the laws of his country when it is consistent with his conditions and individual engagements, I yield only to the force of circumstances on this occasion.— I am moreover aware that nothing will be lost by my resignation as another can be selected without any delay to fill the vacancy.

Commissioners appointed to take charge of the property
Peter Tipps & B.C. Walters

Very Respectfully
(Signed) Jos H. Starr

M. B. Lamar—
Comm.
T. H. McIntire
Chf Justice

Executive Department
23 March 1839.

Hon James Webb
Sec. of State will prepare a commission for Thomas H. McIntire as Chief Justice of the County of Jackson

M. B. Lamar

I presume you have received the resignation of Judge Usher— if you have not you cannot commission Capt McIntire until the vacancy is officially known to your Department

M. B. Lamar

Wm Hunter
Election
Returns—

Goliad 27th Mar/39

Hon James Webb
Sec of State

Sir,

I received a communication from your Department also three volumes of Journals some time since. In consequence of there being but few persons residing in this County, it is impossible to fill all the civil offices, at an election held in this town on the 9th march last. William Thompson and Encarnation Vasques were elected Justices of the peace, and William Newland Sheriff. Joseph Hopkins is County Clerk elected on the third of September last, we have but one Militia Beat in the County.

Respectfully
William Hunter C.S.G.

B. D. McClure
relative to
Bond &
Oath of
Officers

Gonzales Mar 28th 1839

Hon Secretary of State

Sir

In answer to a communication from your Department Feby 7th 1839, the three packages of Journals spoken of in your communication been received but came by different mails, I send you enclosed the Bond of clerk of the Dist Court for the county of Gonzales, and the oaths of office Boards of land Commissioners which are required by law to be filed office. the Clerks bond has been misplaced if ~~be sent~~

N. B.

Gonzales. March 28th 1839.

Hon Secretary of State

Sir

Transmit to your Honor my resignation as Chief Justice of the County of Gonzales and wish you to inform His Excellency the President of the same, that he may appoint some other person to fill the vacancy.

Yours Respectfully
B. L. M'Clure

Executive Dept Mar 30/39

B. Lamar.

The Secretary of State will make out a pardon for John Workman, Workman convicted at the last circuit court for Harrisburg County of the crime of Manslaughter, and sentenced to three years confinement in the common jail for the same.

Petition on file

Mirabeau B. Lamar

Republic of Texas
County of Fort Bend.

Received March 30th 1839. by mail, three packages containing each two copies of an abstract of original titles of Record, directed to me from the Department of State for distribution to the civil officers of the County — four of the packages notified to me, have either not been mailed, or have miscarried — should the other packages come to hand, I will promptly acknowledge the receipt thereof to the Department of State. Given at my office in Richmond the 30th March 1839.

To Dept of State.

Wiley Martin C.J. F.B.C.

Hon Mr Lamar

Dear Sir

Col K. L Anderson a citizen of our place, having signified to us that he would be willing to accept of you the appointment of Collector of Customs for this district, and having a very limited acquaintance with you, he desires us to say a few words to you on the subject, and in doing so we take great pleasure in stating that we have been many years intimately acquainted with him and know of no person better qualified to fill that office, or who more deserves your confidence. — If the Col. thought it necessary to do so, he could procure any number of subscribers to a petition for the appointment. — The bearer of this we understand, will carry to you the resignation of Col. Norton the late incumbent of that office.

San Augustine 30th Mar 1839.

Very Respectfully
your obt Servants
Joseph Rowe Wm Kimbro. A. G. Kellogg

R. D. Johnson
Relative to
the reception
of Original
Titles of
Record -

Galveston Apr. 7th.

Hon James Webb.
Secretary of State

Sir

The five packages alluded to in yours of date of 26th March, containing two copies each of an abstract of original Titles of Record which were deposited in the Post office at Houston to be forwarded to the Chief Justice of this County have been received.

I have the honor to be
Your obt Servt.
R. D. Johnson Chf Jus.

D. G. Jouett
relative to the
Organization
of County
& Election
Returns
&c &c

Raleigh 4th Apr. 1839

Sir

In compliance with the request in yours of the 7th Feby last, which was not received until the 31st ult, I have to inform you that the three sealed packages therein mentioned has not come to hands, I received by the last arrival of the mail a communication from the Commissioner of the General Land office, covering instructions to me, as President of the board of Land Commissioners of this County, and blank form of certificates, but I have received no law on the subject.

I avail myself of this opportunity to inform you in compliance with a proclamation of the Secretary which has appeared in the public prints, that I have laid off Fannin County in two Beats, eastern Beats No 1 and western Beat No 2. and have ordered an election, in compliance with a proclamation of his Excellency, the President, for the several Militia offices in said Beats, which will take place on the 13th inst- but heretofore this County has been divided into three Captains beats, but owing to Indian depredations a large portion of the population has left the County, and in consequence of which we have but five Justices of the Peace in the County, one having left, of the five yet remaining, Thomas Lindsey, Mabel Gilbert, and James R Oneal were elected in January 1838, and sworn into office by the then member of Congress, who informs me that he returned all the facts certified as the law directs to the Department of State in April of that year.- Joseph Swaggerty was elected in February 1838 and sworn into office same month by myself Joseph Murphy was elected in October 1838- and was sworn into office in same month by myself. Thomas Jouett was elected Clerk of the County Court in Feby 1838 & John Hart Sheriff at the same time, have been in said offices since that time, said to have been reported by the then member of Congress, but have received no Commissions.- our mails are very irregular and we have had one entire failure of late. Joseph Swaggerty & Thomas Lindsey are the just of the peace for Beat No 1. Joseph Murphy & James R Oneal for Beat No 2 Gilbert resides in the Southern portion of our County in a small settlement at present in Beat No 1. the most of the citizens having evacuated the of the County. A Coroner has been heretofore elected but failed to qualify and be sworn in the election for District Clerk will take place

The Republic of Texas
To the County of Fort Bend

Received May 4th 1839, by mail one package containing two copies of an "Abstract of Original Titles of Records, circulated to me
Abt of
Original
Titles of
Records

gnal from the Department of State for distribution to the Civil officers of the County
This in addition to the 5 packages containing two copies each heretofore received
Records" and receipted for, fills up the number of 7 packages containing two copies
packages each, notified to me as having been mailed for this place.
do do

Given at my office in Richmond
the 4th day of May 1839.
Wiley Martin Chf Jus

Hon Secy of State

A. McCastland
Relative to
packages,
Co. Officers.
original
Title of
Records

Sagrange 1st May 1839

Hon Secy of State

Sir

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of your two communications bearing date of 7th Feby and 26th March, The three packages spoken of in yours of the 7th Feby came safely to hands. It is not in my power at present to give you the information, you required relative to the date of the Election of the Civil officers of this County— but will be able in a very short time, I think by next mail.— I have this day received yours of the 15th April, stating that you had deposited in the office two packages containing the laws of this Congress, they have not come to hand. only three of the five packages of original titles of record have been received.

Very Respectfully
A. M. Castland C.C.

J. C. Watrous
Resignation
as Atty
General

Houston May 1st 1839.

His Excellency
Gen Lamar.

Sir.

I have the honor herewith to tender my resignation of the office of Attorney General.

I am reluctantly compelled to this step by by the conflict between my private professional engagements, and my official duties. This consideration alone induces me to retire from the office to which your (perhaps too) partial estimate of my abilities had called me, and in which I could have but my public aid in carrying out to success the principles of an administration which has for its only object the promotion and advancement of the best interests of the Country.

I beg you to be assured Sir, that I carry out of your Cabinet the same sentiments of personal friendship and political confidence that I brought into it

I have the honor to be with the
highest regards your obt servt
John C Watrous

M. C. Hunt
Resignation as Sec'ry of Navy

Navy Department
Houston May 1st 1839

To His Excellency
M. B. Lamar

Sir

Agreeably to the intimation which I gave your Excellency some short time ago, of retiring from public life, I now beg leave most respectfully to tender my resignation of the office which you were pleased to confer upon me at the organization of our Government. My private affairs which have been almost totally neglected for the last three years, in consequence of the devotion of my time to the public service, require my attention, and I find it necessary to relinquish a station, which but for that cause it would afford me pleasure to continue to occupy, as it is my duty as well as my pride to serve my Country. Apart from the paramount satisfaction it affords me to contribute in any manner in my power to the advancement of the interest of the Republic, a disconnection with your administration of the Government, in offering this aid is particularly regretted, knowing as I do the deep and abiding solicitude you feel for the promotion of its honor and general prosperity, and your firm determination to direct your energies to the full consummation of this great end.

You will have my best wishes on retirement, for success in sustaining the principles by which you have expressed a determination to be guided in administering the Government.

I have the honor to remain &c
Memucan Hunt Sec'y

A. Briscoe
Resignation as Chief Justice

Houston May 2nd 1839.

To His Excellency M. B. Lamar

Sir

Finding the revenues of my office insufficient to justify my residing at the Seat of Justice of my County, I have removed my residence to the Country, where I am unable to discharge the duties of my office with as much advantage to the Community, as I wish it to be done. I therefore beg respectfully to resign the office which I hold as Chief Justice of the County of Harrisburg, and pray your Excellency to appoint a successor to whom I may deliver the papers in my charge and my seal

Respectfully
A. Briscoe

E. Lynn
Reception of the Hon Sec'y of State
Laws &c

Mexia 3rd May 1839.

Sir

Your of 6th Apl last has been duly received and also the two parcels referred to (Copies of the Laws of the 3rd Congress) Yours of the 24th March last is at hand but the packages referred to has not come to hand only in part

Yours truly &c
E. Lynn

Land
Lin of Hon Secy of State
re Titles
Record

Beaumont May 4th 1839

Sir

I have per this weeks mail received from your Department three packages containing each 6 copies of the laws of Congress, and also 7 packages containing each two copies of an abstract of original "Titles of Record" directed to me for distribution, in your letter of the 7th Feby you refer me to a circular dated 15th of Jany 1839 (in several numbers of the Telegraph and also of the Intelligencer) in the Telegraph I have not discovered it, the only paper I take, will you be so good as to inform me what it refers to.

Respectfully yours
Henry Millard C.S

B. S. Grayson
with as Hon Secy of State
Special agent
to examine
the Offices of
Board Land
Com^rs

Brazoria May 4th 1839

Sir

Having been appointed Special Agent to examine the offices of the board of Land Commissioners of the Counties of Bastrop Fayette Colorado, Fort Bend Brazoria and Harrisburg— I herewith enclose you the certificate of the chief Justice of Brazoria County of my having subscribed to the oath required in the fourth section of the Land Law.

Your obedient Servt.
Ben S Grayson

S. Dinsmore
Justice Williams,
Exception of
Laws &c

Hon James Webb
Secy of State

Matagorda 4th. May 1839

Sir

On the 15th Ult. Thomas Bridges was elected a Justice of the Peace for Militia Company Beat No 5 of this County, and has since taken the oath of office required by Law. By the last mail I received a letter enclosed in an envelope from your Department stating that herewith, I would receive Commissions for the civil officers of this County— but the Commissions made not their appearance. Twelve Copies of the Laws passed at the 1st Session of the 3rd Congress have been received in good order and have been distributed, and by the last mail a mutilated map of Laws enacted at the former Sessions of Congress were received, chafed and bedaubed with mud, so that some of them will not be fit for use. We have still two vacancies in the magistracy, when filled they shall be reported.

Your obt Servant
Silas Dinsmore Chf Justice

S. Toler
Letter to
commissions
&c

Hon Secy of State

Washington 6th May 1839

Your communications of the 19th and 27th Apl were received by the mail of last evening, the Commissions for Joseph H. Woods and J. C. Smiley that were enclosed, have been forwarded to their Gent.

I have the honor to be
S. T. Toler C.S.

Petition praying his Excellency M. B. Lamar to reprieve Morris Jeffries convicted of Horse Stealing

Liberty May 6th 1839.

The petition of the undersigned Citizens of the County of Liberty would respectfully represent Unto your Excellency.

That at the last term of the Hon District Court of said County a youth named Morris C Jeffries was indicted tried and found guilty of stealing a horse the property of George Taylor of said Co and sentenced to be hung on the 31st day of may inst.— Now your petitioners would humbly show Unto your Excellency, that at the time the larceny was committed the Law making the Crime of Horse stealing punishable with death, was not promulgated, and could not have been known to this Boy, who if entitled to any sympathy, should receive it in consequence of his youth and friendless situation.— your petitioners would further suggest to your Excellency that the Verdict of the Jury was as follows (Viz) we of the jury find the prisoner guilty but recommend him to the mercy of the court.

(Signed &c)

Your petitioners would therefore humbly pray your Excellency to exercise that noble Executive power with which you are clothed viz that of reprieve in this case and in so doing the remembrance of the act shall remain with your petitioners, and friends, and perhaps operate as a blessing to this friend less and Unfortunate youth.

With sentiments of esteem &c

(Signers)

Petition praying his Appointment Cyprus Joy Consul for the Port of Phila

Philadelphia May 1839.

His Excellency. Mirabeau B Lamar

The Undersigned ask leave to represent.— That from the present and daily increasing intercourse between this City and the Republic of Texas, they deem it of some importance that a suitable person should be appointed by the Government of Texas, as Consul resident in Philadelphia.

Applications are not unfrequently made here for the signature and seal of such an officer.— We are not aware that any person has yet been appointed to this Station; if not your Excellency should possess views in accordance with our own on this subject, we take the liberty of recommending to your Excellency, as a suitable person for said appointment Cyprus Joy Known in this city for his untiring perseverence in promoting the interests of Texas, not only in a Commercial View, but in encouraging a good and hee emigration to that Country.— We consider him qualified to discharge the duties of such office, both from his education profession and present occup and as such we respectfully recommend him to your Excellency through the Minister of the Texan Republic near the Government of the U States

See letter on file for in correct

Transcr.

For U.S. Cons relative to Consulship.

Hon Secy of State

Sir

Enclosed I return you a commission granted one of Jackson County, I do so presuming that Mr

application was for a Notaryship in this County Refugio, or for the Port of Aransas which is in Refugio County.— A commission for this County would be gratefully received, and the duties of the office faithfully performed by.

Sir your very obt. Servant
Joel T. Case

Philadelphia May 7th 1839

Mr. Pettit
lation to His Excellency
appointing Mr B. Lamar
E.D. Tarr
onsul—

Sir

I am informed that the name of Elihu D. Tarr Esqr of the City has been brought to your notice with a view to the appointment of Consul for this Port, and as Commissioner to take the acknowledgement of Deeds and other legal instruments in Pennsylvania to be used in the Republic of Texas, and I am desired to give my testimony in regard to him.— Mr Tarr is a member of the Bar of this City of much intelligence and of great respectability, as a gentleman and a citizen, his standing and reputation are of that favorable kind, which will authorize you to place entire confidence in him. Should he receive the appointment he solicits, I am persuaded you will find that by a correct and faithful performance of his duties, he will abundantly justify your selection of him.— I should be among those of his friends here who would be glad to hear of the success of his application

I have the honor to be &c
J. M. Pettit

W. P. Scott—
ception of How James Webb
Packages— Secy of State

Brazoria 8th May 1839

Sir

Yours of the 16th Apl. was received together with the Packages to which you allude but not by the mail which you wrote.

I have the honor to be &c
W. P. Scott Chf Just.

T. H. McIntin
ception of How Secy of State
Packages

Texana May 8th 1839.

Sir

In compliance with your directions, I have to inform you that the two packages mentioned in yours of the 16th ult came safely to hand, each containing six copies of the acts of last session of Congress one by last mail and the other by the mail before

Very Respectfully &c
Thomas H. McIntyre

Crockett)
tion to How Secy of State
Laws,

Crockett May 8th 1839.

Sir

I have the honor to inform you, that I have received the several letters from the Department notifying me that several copies of the acts of

Commission of Justice of the Peace

the last Session of the Congress, and of Abstracts of original titles in the Genl Land office, also Commissions of the Peace to mess Browning McKenzie, and Russell had been sent to this County.— all of the above have duly come to hand.

Very Respectfully
I H Kirchoffer Clk

Columbus May 9th 1839

W. Madham Hon James Webb.
Election Returns =

Dear Sir

At an election held in the third Captains Beat recently organized of Colorado County after due notice having been given according to Law,) on the twentieth day of April last, Votes were given as follows. For justice of the Peace S. G. Redgate had twenty Votes For the same office Abraham Alley received twenty Votes. For Constable Burton Mc Dougherty received Sixteen & William Stevenson four Votes S G Redgate & Burton Mc. Dougherty have since been duly qualified for their respective offices— Abraham Ally also elected Justice of the Peace has failed to present himself within the term required by law the Beat above mentioned was organized subsequent to the regular biennial election of the County, and though I have been unable to find any express law authorizing or requiring writs of election to be issued, yet in consideration of the obvious wants of that part of the County, as well as the general ambiguity and insufficiency of the laws regulating elections I took the liberty of authorizing the election the returns of which are here with presented. hoping that they will meet your approbation.

I have the honor to be &c
William Madham Chf. Just.

Oakland Red River Co. T
May 9th 1839

S. W. Jones
relative to the right of jurisdiction near the boundary of the U.S. of the North

His Excellency
Mirabeau B Lamar

Sir

You Excellency is aware that by a Treaty between the United States & Texas the jurisdiction of this section of the country has been ceeded to the U S until the line is run between the two nations.— The object of this communication is to complain to you as the highest functionary of the Republic, that the civil authorities of this County in violation of the Treaty still continue to claim and exercise jurisdiction.— of this conduct on the part of the citizens of this County complaint and animadversion is made by the citizens of the adjoining State (Arkansas) they reflect upon us as not abiding by the treaty as we in good faith are bound to do. suits are frequently brought against the citizens of this County in the U S. district Court for Arkansas. They are also sued in the Texan Courts.— The question asked by the officers for Texas in this County, is why not the President issue his Proclamation declaring that Texian laws must cease in this County until after the is run? If that is the meaning of the Treaty— the

commencing a difficulty between the authorities of Texas & the U.S. as follows sometime last Summer I was sued before a Texan magistrate who iniquitously gave judgement against me. I then as a dernier resort resort took an appeal to the County Court but in consequence of the magistrates having failed to execute his duty as the law requires the case was thrown out of court & judgement awarded against me for Court Costs &c And the day before my arrival from Houston one of my mules was levied upon by the Constable and but for one of my neighbours mules have been sold for the debt and Constables Costs, and to day the Siff came and levied on some of my property to satisfy the costs of Court and now I shall appeal to the U.S. district Court at Little Rock for redress. The county Court sits regularly and acts upon the cases of estates of Dec^d persons &c lands of orphans are sold &c &c all which proceedings your Excellency is well aware are illegal because there is no jurisdiction and must ultimately be reversed by the proper tribunals. I have protested against the exercise of Texan authorities till the line is run. The people are deceived by a few who are interested in deceiving them. They will tacitly submit to the treaty provided you will issue your Proclamation to that effect. I hope you will do it merely to show that Texas is disposed to submit to the Treaty made with the U.S. and also more especially to prevent any further difficulties between us and the United States authorities. The present situation of affairs is extremely embarrassing, to submit to an assumed jurisdiction which I know does not exist or to be forced to seek redress in the U.S Courts presents a dilemma on both sides. While upon this subject permit me to state it has been circulated that Texas is opposed to the running of the line & that I have opposed it &c &c all equally erroneous should your leisure permit will you answer this forthwith. give me your views as to the jurisdiction of this country &c that I may justify my course. My rule Genl is that when I am right to follow the dictates of my own conscience regardless of the result, always relying upon the maxim that whatever is my duty is par. amount to all other considerations

Your obd^t. Servant
Isaac N. Jones.

A

No 11

Wm Bryan
Relative to Mov Secy of State
Desk Knives

Consulate of Texas
N Orleans 11th May 1839

Sir

Your favor of the 29th ult^o. is duly at hand, also the desk knives you returned per same opportunity. I now forward you per Steam Ship Cuba per favor of Mr R Gordon Engr one doz Rogers' best desk knives, which I trust will prove satisfactory

I am Sir very Respectfully
Your Mo. ob. Servt
Wm Bryan
Consul

P. G. Jonett
Relative to
Packages
Election
Returns
Indian
Depredations

Raleigh Fannin
May 10th 1839

Nath. Amory Chf Clerk
Department of State

Sir

In compliance with the request in yours of the 26th March last, which was not received untie the 28th ult I have to inform you that only two of the packages containing, an abstract of original Titles of Records have come to hands, the 3 sealed packages heretofore spoken of containing the journals of the House of Representatives, Journals of the Senate & of the Consultation, came to hand by the same mail, though they were much damaged from being wet and rubed in the mail or I might say olde saddle Bags.— An election for Clerk of the District Court was held on the 13th Apl last Jas. S. Baker was duly elected, and has been sworn into office.— The present mail is the first trip of a weekly mail, and the above information would have been transmitted by last mail, but at the moment I had finished a report to the Secretary of war, I was called upon to go in pursuit of a party of Indians that stole some thirteen head of horses from the neighbourhood of the present seat of Justice, fifteen of us in number pursued them some forty miles lost the trail, myself & one other returned, thirteen in search that have not since been heard of, great apprehensions are entertained for their safety, as they have been out Eleven days, the Indians killed one other horse & one milch cow, shot with arrows and from the direction they took it is confidently believed they are Kickapoos and Shawnees— the abstracts that have come to hands in this and Red River County's together with the incursions of the Indians, will have a tendency to completely ruin our county, the dissatisfaction among the citizens is alarmingly great, and a number of respectable emigrants from Tennessee and other parts of the United States have forthwith returned, and unless some effective measures are taken relative to Indians old Surveys &c this portion of texas will certainly be broken up

Very Respectfully
P. G. Jonett Chf Clk

M. B. Lamar
To
Col Boyles
& others

To Col Boyles and other Head men of the Cherokees.

I have learned with much surprize that you have ordered major Waters to leave the Military Station at the Great Saline, In this you have committed an error. That officer was acting under the authority of orders of this Government and any attempt on your part either by force or threats to impede the execution of his duty cannot be regarded in any other light than as an outrage upon the Sovereignty of the Nation.— You and your people have been deceived by evil Counsellors.— The forked tongues of the Mexicans has beguiled you, and you are running into dangerous paths contrived by the enemies of Texas for our injury and your ruin.— Be wise then in season. Abandon your wicked and insolent advisers, and listen to the voice of truth of reason, and of power.— You assume to be acting under a Treaty negotiated at your village on the twenty third day of 1836 with commissions appointed by Provisional Government of Texas.— No doubt there are those who would impe

Under by virtue of that treaty, you have a right to inquire, not from the limits of that definition, an independent government, leaving you, undoubtedly, to be thought, for a foreign enemy. Do not, however, let this, fellow-citizens, not offend that sense of Carnivals, our enthusiasm and Revolution, and we need every fight, shall be so misunderstood, as to be guided by others, you are to take out insult, the offense, this and forever, shall have been. For you have never been recognized the Sovereignty by mutual independence and formal acknowledgements and treaties, or intercourse without dependence or obligations with any other people. Have you been recognized the citizen Pilot? Has you been without these benefits, and your and your tribe having the inalienable rights of Crete as Sovereignty or Free Government? Have to permitted to increase or fearing neither? The Secretary attended to a call on Friday, the 22 of this month. Has been Secretary of the Treasury, and since has been Minister of Foreign Affairs, for you to build, may hopes upon it. But he has not entertained, or disinterested and deceiver. Even if this Government were for a moment to admit that Treaty to profit Treaty or to carry any obligation on the part of Texas your people have defied it by robbery and Treason and were perfected, our citizens would have received under it by Commercial other. We do not need a Hospital request our peace and safety, you and your people have left offended, misapprehension and misunderstanding. Have called out belligerent complaints with them, have received and threatened these excesses among you, and have given your countenance to our insurrection raised in your country against by Mexicans who had been incorporated into our National family, and were enjoying all the benefits and privileges of citizenship.

In view of this disorganization
your declarations and your conduct, how can this Government regard you in any other light than as a secret enemy or suspicious friend? Professing friendship yet in constant collusion with our foes, you are at peace, peace, when every action betrays a settled disposition to hostilities. Your village has been the chief point where our enemies have met to concert their plans and we believe that it has been partly through your tribe that other Indians with whom we are at war have received their ammunition supplies. Neither is this Govt ignorant of the fact that a secret understanding has existed between you and the Traitor Cordova whose return from Rio Grande and co-operation is expected by you. He is our open enemy and known to be your confidential friend & Counsellor. Under such circumstances a military post was ordered to be established at the Saline, with no intention of interrupting your people in the enjoyment of their possessions or any of their rights, but for the purpose of guarding more effectually against the incursions of the hostile tribes, and to prevent their making your settlements their head Quarters for Conspiracy and a place of refuge from danger. A measure so essential to our safety and in no way involving yours, could not reasonably be objected to by you if your designs were as pacific as your professions. But the fact that you are unwilling for a Major Walters to occupy a point which you know to be so important to the protection of a large portion of our exposed population, as well as the threatening and dictatorial language with which you have thought to order him off makes it the more necessary that he should not abandon it. I have accordingly ordered him back to the Saline, and in doing this it becomes

necessary that the relations which is to subsist between the Cherokees and this Government should be distinctly understood.— I therefore feel it to be my duty as the Chief Magistrate of this Republic to tell you in the plain language of sincerity, that the Cherokees will never be permitted to establish a permanent and independent jurisdiction in the limits of this Government, that the political and fee simple claims which they set up to our territory now occupied by them will never be allowed, and that they are permitted at present to remain where they are, only because this government is looking forwards to the time when some peaceable arrangement can be made for their removal without the necessity of shedding blood; but that their final removal is contemplated is certain, and that it will be effected is equally so, whether it will be done by friendly negociations, or by the violence of war, must depend upon the Cherokees themselves.— If you remain at home quietly and inoffensively, without murdering our people stealing their property or giving succour & protection to our enemies they will be permitted to remain in the undisturbed enjoyment of their present possessions untill Congress shall be able to make some final arrangement satisfactory to both parties for their return to their own tribe beyond the Big River. But if listening to the suggestions of bad men, equally the enemies of the Red man, and the white if they shall pursue such a course of conduct as to jeopardize the lives and property of our citizens or to destroy that sense of security essential to the happiness and prosperity of our frontier, the inevitable consequence will be prompt & sanguinary war, which can terminate only in their destruction.— or expulsion.— This language may sound harshly to a people who have so seldom been spoken to in the spirit of frankness and candor; but however disagreeable it may be to hear the truth it is always better to be told and it is now spoken from no unkindness to the people to whom it is addressed.— If the Executive were capable of dissembling he might use a language far more flattering and pleasing. He could amuse you with pledges which would never be fulfilled, and with his unauthorized promises secure your compliance and friendship untill he should be ready to apply coercion in the place of argument; but in the opinion of this Government no crisis can arise which would justify the employment of hypocrisy & dissimulation, and here much more your friend and worthy to be listened to who knowing your destiny tells you what you may expect and be prepared to encounter than him who would excite expectations which must meet with disappointment and encourage the indulgence of passions which can only lead to disaster

Permit me then, as one who has never deceived the Red man to advise the Cherokees to abandon all ideas of war, to remain at home in peace.— cultivate their farms renounce all connection with our enemies and shew by their acts as well as by their words that they are sincere in their professions of friendship. Let them do this and wait the next meeting of our National Congress, and the President will take great pleasure in recommending to that Honorable body to take their peculiar situation into consideration and to adopt towards them a policy which shall be so liberal in character as to satisfy every reasonable mind and lead to a friendship between the two parties, The President wishes to do

the friends of peace, justice and humanity; and if the Cherokees act right on their part he has no hesitancy in assuring them that the Congress will do for them whatever duty and honor shall require. Certainly this is a far better course for the Cherokees to pursue than the opposite one of contending for what this Government will never concede, and which they can never obtain by force; or if obtained would only tend to increase their difficulties. For if we were to give you all you ask, if this Government were to acknowledge you as a free Sovereign and independent power to the fullest extent; your condition would not be the least improved by it, you could not live in peace with our people, you would be subjected to perpetual & unavoidable annoyance and would have finally to sell out your lands and leave the Country, surrounded as you soon would be by a strong population, and daily harrassed by bad men ever ready to take advantage of your ignorance or your weakness, what security would you have for any of your rights? what redress of wrongs? There would be none, except the honor of this Government, you would be powerless to help yourselves, and would have to rely upon the magnanimity of Congress Then why not rely upon it now? Foreseeing these difficulties, why do you court them? Would it not be wiser in you to say to the Government of Texas The Red man and the white man cannot dwell together, we must separate let us do it in friendship; not in wrath, and on those sacred principles of generosity & virtue which the Great Father of Nations will approve, instead to which they will have ultimately to appeal will be forced to give way to the Sterner principles of Vindictive justice.—

Your destiny is involving in the rejection or adoption of this counsel, If you listen to the voice of reason you may be a happy and prosperous people; but if you follow the dictates of improper passions your ruin is inevitable.— This Government has no desire to wrong the Indians or to shed his blood, but it will not hesitate to adopt the most vigorous and decisive means for the defence of its rights and protection of its own people This is the language of reason; and will now be duly appreciated, and I would advise you to adopt it before the patience of this Government shall become exhausted by repeated injuries.— A few more wrongs from the Cherokees will loose to them all the advantages which they may reap from the present amicable disposition of this Government; and that clemency to which they will have ultimately to appeal will be forced to give way to the Sterner principles of Vindictive Justice

M. B. Lamar.

Cunningham
Calm to Hon Secy of State
Extract
Titles—
Laws &c
Election
Returns
&c

Bastrop. May 10th 1840

Your favor of the 26th March and 16 April have been received two of the packages of Abstract of Titles, and one package of the fourth Volume of the acts of Congress have likewise come to hands.— In addition to the copies of the 4th Volume which you advise me you have deposited in the Post office we are much in need of ten or twelve copies of the 1st 2nd & 3rd Volumes of the laws, This County has never been furnished with a sufficient number of these Volumes and besides it is much more popular at this time than it was one year ago. and consequently there is now almost twice the number of civic officers in it was a year Ago.

enclosed I forward to you certificates of an election of D. F. Owen & J. Wilbarger who were elected justices of the Race 20th Apl last, at the same time there were several other justices of the Race elected but I have not yet learned whether any others will accept or not.. sui file for certificates of election.

I am dear Sir
your obt Servant
L C Cunningham

Mr Hart's
Bond for Hon James Webb.
receiver of
land dues

Nacogdoches may 12th 1839

Secy of State.

Sir

Enclosed I send you my oath of office, and also Mr. John T Roberts affidavit, which I promised when in Houston to send you by the first opportunity, I have filed in the Clerks office of this County for records, my bond with security, for the faithful performance of any duties as receiver of land dues, (which bond was approved by the associate Justices of this County) and will be transmitted to the Genl. Land office as soon as recorded

Yours Respectfully
Wm Hart.

G. Rusk's
reception of
abstract of the
original
Titles of
Records

Shelbyville may 13th 1839.

Hon Secy of State

Sir

I hasten to inform you that I have received by mail five Packages, containing two copies each, of the abstracts of the original Titles of Records, in the Genl. Land office, I also request that you would forward the Commissions, for the Justices of this County,

With due respect
I remain yours &c.
G. Rusk.

M. P. Wych
reception of
Laws &c
Original Titles
of Records
Organization
of Militia
&c &c

Milam 13th May 1839.

Hon Secy of State

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the recpt. of a letter from your department dated 16th Apl. informing me that two packages, of the laws of the last Congress, containing six copies each had been mailed for this County.— I have the pleasure to acknowledge their receiption.— And at the same time beg leave to say that the number of copies are insufficient to meet the necessary demand of this County.— In accordance with an act passed at the last Session of Congress approved 24th Jany. for a new organization of the militia, and the proclamation of the President consequent upon the aforesaid Act requiring me to constitute a military [illegible]. I proceeded to lay off the Seven

four instead of three beats as before laid off.— This arrangement has given us 8 justices of the Peace instead of six our former number— 4 Constables 2. Clerks and 1 Sheff: besides the Corporate officers of Sabine town— thus we require about 17 Members— I must beg of and press upon your Department to send us the necessary Copies of the laws of the first and Second Congress as we are very badly supplied with them.— I know of not more than 2 or 3 Copies in the County and Considered as private property.— The five Copies or packages of Abstract of Original Titles referred to in yours of the 26th March have Come safely to hands.— I shall in a few days have the pleasure to forward to your Department a list of all the Civil officers in this County.—

Respectfully
your obt Servt.
M. P. Wyche C. S. M. C.

S. Grimes
Election Hon Secy. of State
Returns

Montgomery County 14th May 1839.

I certify that the following named persons have been duly elected Justices of the Peace in their respective Beats in and for the Counties aforesaid to wit Beat No 1. Daniel T. Dunihans Isaac Bird Beat No. 2. Zorastes Robinson and William R. Bowen Beat No. 3. Allen C Jones and James E. Buchanon Beat No 4 Peter Cartwright & George Galbreath Beat No 5 Joseph Lydly & Mills Whitley Beat No 6. Wm H Bowen and Isaac Toosey Beat No 7 Ephraim M Gray & Hillory M Crabb.

Given under my hand at office the 14th day may 1839.
Jesse Grimes C. S. M. C

J. C. Brooks
Election & Hon Secy of State
Distribution
of Laws

San Augustine may 14th 1839.

Dear Sir

The last mail brought the five packages of the Laws of the third Congress as mentioned in your Communication of date April 16th And I am delivering them to Justices of Peace, Clks, Sheffs. Constables &c (on application) for whom I presume they were intended.— I deem it however a duty to state to your Department that I am assurred by many Justices of Peace in our County as also by my predecessor in office that no laws passed by the Republic of Texas has been received by them heretofore— At any rate no laws of any character have been handed to me by the former Chief Justice of this County since my coming into office

Very Respectfully
your obt Servt.
Jno C. Brooke.
Chf Justice C. C.

E. W. Cullen
Relation to His Excellency
Pardon for M B Lamar
Jeffries

14th May 1

Respected Sir

B. W. Hardin was speaking to me in relation to a respiteve of Jeffries for grand Larceny, now murder Sentence of death. If you can give a conditional pardon Eg that he will leave the Country it will be well enough - otherwise it will not go. - It would have afforded me a great pleasure to have called on you this morning, but my company is waiting, & I am compelled to leave

Yours very Sincerely
E W. Cullen

Wm P. Miller -
organization
of militia -
Election
Returns -
&c &c

Victoria May 16th 1839.

Hon James Webb
Secy of State

Dear Sir

In accordance with Proclamation issued by his Excellency, and Countersigned by the Hon Sec of War, requiring the Chief Justices of the Several Counties to organize the Militia. - I have so divided the County as to make a new Company. and by the returns to me made Henry. Crooks was duly and Constitutionly elected Justice of the Peace, for whom you will please forward a Commission. - I have now the honor to acknowledge the Receipt of all the packages named in your last two letters also the Commissions enclosed by letter to me for the Several officers

I have the honor to remain
Wm P. Miller C. J. V C

W. P. Wyche
Organization
of Co -
Election
Returns -
&c

Milam 17th May 1839.

Hon James Webb.
Secy of State

Sir

I have the honor to enclose to your Department the accompanying list of Civil officers, for the County of Sabine, with the dates of their election, appointments &c the particular beats to which they belong - I regret exceedingly the delay which has occurred in this County in the organization of its Civil Department but this delay was unavoidable and over which I could exercise no Control. - At the usual time for issuing writs of election there was no Chief Justice for the County, and one of the Justices assumed that responsibility and ordered the elections took place on the 1st Monday in February as directed by law - B having directed the elections, he refused to open, even the ret to qualify them - In this State matters remained until my C as Chief Justice reached me, which was on the 19th ult - dated 12th Feb. - In the mean time doubts had arisen from the unguarded remarks of Judge Cullen declaring the elections illegal

many had determined it best to continue taking appeals until their suits should be taken before Judge Collen, who as a matter of course would set aside the whole proceedings as contrary to Law. Wishing to pursue such a course in the state of affairs, as would most likely avoid these results I determined to delay qualifying the officers elect, until I could the opinion of the attorney General of the Republic in reference the validity of the election Having now waited three weeks for an answer without receiving one. I feel myself no longer justified in delaying the qualification of the officers elect. — You will perceive that Walter Hinckley holds both appointments of District and County Court Clerk, M. H. Harris the late Clerk of the County Court, died a few days since — and as Mr Hinckley is a most excellent Clerk, and had been for the last 12 or 18 months performing the duties of Deputy Clerk to the County Court and I saw no incompatibility in the two offices, I conferred the latter office on Mr Hinckley. — In organizing the militia of this County agreeably to an act of Congress approved 24th January last and a Proclamation of the President consequent upon that act, it has become necessary to add one other beat to the former number, which will necessarily create five more justices of the Peace in the County the names of whom I shall be enabled to forward you in a few days

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servt.
W. P. Hyche

Hagedorn
praying the
Appointt of
Consul for the
Hanseatic
Republics

Philadelphia May 17th 1839.

His Excellency
Mirabeau B. Lamar

The memorial and petition of Edwards Archibald Hagedorn, Respectfully Shews, that your Petitioner is a Native of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen, in Germany, but is now and has been for some years, a Naturalized Citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of the City of Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania, that he is about to embark for Bremen with his family where he is the principal partner of a Commercial Establishment of long standing. —

Having learned that the Republic of Texas has no Consul or Commercial Agent for either of the Hanseatic Republics, Bremen, Hamburg, or Lubeck, he takes the liberty of soliciting your Excellency to bestow upon him the appointment as Consul for the three Hanseatic Cities above named. — He is confident that it will be in his power to promote the trade of Texas and materially to aid and succour such Citizens of that Republic whose avocations may call them to Germany. — He also has extensive connections in the three Hanseatic Cities, both of kindred and of business, and hopes to exercise a very salutary influence in favor of the interests of Texas and her Citizens should he be honored with the appointment. — His long residence in the United States has made himself perfectly familiar with the English language and with the habits, customs and commercial usages of the

American people.

Your Memorialist is well aware that in addressing Petitions to your Excellency for any office in your Gift, there is no hope of Success, unless the applicant be a man of integrity and honor, it would be indecorous in your Memorialist to obtrude his own appreciation of himself upon your Excellency. He therefore begs leave to refer you for his character and standing to any of his fellow Citizens of Philadelphia, or to those of his birth place, the City of Bremen, through whom your Excellency may ascertain the regards in which your Memorialist is held by them to whom he is known.—

Your Excellency's Geographical and political Knowledge, will at once suggest to you the importance of the three Hanseatic Cities of Bremen Hamburg & Lübeck to the Republic of Texas in a Commercial point of view, they being those points at which the products of most foreign Countries find access to the interior of Germany and a great part of Europe they will afford one of the principal marts, for the Tobacco Rice, Cotton, Sugar, and other products of your fertile Territory, and in return will send you, besides the manufactures of the work shops, the hardy and industrious race of emigrants to till and defend your soil.— Your Memorialist is desirous and ambitious to obtain this office, not for its pecuniary Emolument, but from the honest pride of representation in some official Capacity of your Young and growing Republic

And your Memorialist will ever pray.
Edward Hagedorn

Raleigh May 23rd 1839

Sd Jonett Nath. Amory Esq
relative to Chf Clk. Reps
laws & copy
of abstracts

Sir

In compliance with the request in yours of 16th Apl last I have to inform you that the package therein mentioned, containing six copies of the Laws of the third Congress, has not as yet come to hand one package came to hand by last mail, containing one copy of the Abstracts, making in all received, five copies, the Journals heretofore spoken of, have not as yet all come to hands, we have now a weekly mail, but a very great derangement must take place between this and Houston.

Very Respectfully
J. G. Jonett C.R.

Houston 28th May 1839

M. B. Lamar
granting Executive Department
passport
to Judge Mills

The Secy of State will prepare a passport for Judge Mills to the United States with permission to be absent from this Repub for two months from the date of his departure

M. B. Lamar

Austin Texas 20th May 39

Walker
Relative to laying off Austin City &c

His Excellency
M. B. Lamar

Dear Sir

I have concluded a conditional contract with Messrs Peter Schoolfield for surveying and laying off the lots of our City to this effect. That I pay them Five Thousand Dollars, they finding their own Chain carriers provided you are not willing to pay them according to the rates allowed by the Laws of Louisiana, which Mr Peter says are two cents per running foot, and refers to the City ordinances of New Orleans under the head of City Surveyor, and that the law can be found at his office in the City of Houston. They have commenced surveying to day, and shall use all possible despatch.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servt
Edwin Waller

Bexar 22 May 1836

J. H. Barnard
J. Shackleford
Ramon Musquiz
Whilst in Captivity

We the undersigned citizens having been made prisoners at Goliad, on March last, and subsequently brought to this place for the purpose of rendering our professional services to the sick and wounded in the Hospital, do hereby certify that during our residence here, we have been treated with the utmost hospitality and kindness by the Senor Don Ramon Musquiz and his family. The sympathy that he manifested in our behalf while in captivity will be ever remembered by us with gratitude, and we cheerfully recommend him to the favorable notice of our countrymen whose services he may at any time require.

Joseph H. Barnard M.D.
J. Shackleford M.D.

In addition to the above I take much pleasure in stating that during my stay at this place, I was an inhabitant of the house of the above Senor Don Ramon Musquiz and that the kindness which himself and family extended towards me in my unpleasant situation was such as to excite in my mind the warmest feelings of gratitude

J. Shackleford M.D.

J. C. Neill
Passport
Ramond Musquiz

Commandancy at Bexar Jany 31 1836

Know ye men by these presents that Ramond Musquiz a privileged Citizen and Civil officer of this District is, consulting to proceed wheresoever his inclination may lead him, in accordance with the privileges granted, and conceded to him by the Constitution of Coahuila and Texas, in the year One thousand Eight hundred & twenty four.

To all whom it may concern

J. C. Neill Lt Col. Comd

I Certify the foregoing to be true copies of the original papers in the Department

Given under my hand and
Seal of office at the City of
Austin this 17th day of December 1
David G Burnet Actg Secy of

Wm Bryan
Relative to
Col Bee's order from Mexico

Consulate of Texas N.O.
May 25th 1839.

Hon James Webb
Secy of State

At the moment of the departure of the Cuba, I have received information that Col Bee has been ordered from Mexico, and refused a landing.— It has been done by the local authorities only, he has taken refuge on a French man of war.

In haste
yours Respectfully
William Bryan
Per Saml Ellis

County of Austin
May 17th 1839

S. H. Money
Elections
Return—

Hon Secy of State

Sir

According to the returns to me made of elections held in this County for County officers, I hereiwth have the honor to transmit the names of those who are entitled to Commissions (to wit) Beat No 4 at an election held on the 6th day of Apl 1839. Churchill Fulcher for Justice Peace, Beat No 5 an election held on the fourth day of May 1839. Ira Fisher for Justice of the Peace

With sentiments of respect your obt Servant
S. H. Money

E. H. Tarrant
Reception of N Amory Esq.
abstract of Chf Clk Dept of State
Land Titles—
Land &c—

Clarksville May 27th 1839

Sir

Your favors 26th March (ult.) & also 16th Apl. Incoming the 12 packages of the Abstract of Land titles and also the four packages of the laws, which will be distributed as soon as practicable

Very Respectfully
yours &c
E. H. Tarrant

J. H. Smith
Praying
Appointment
of Justice

Clarksville Red River Co
May 27th 1839

To Her Excellency
M. B. Lamar

The undersigned having this day learned from Chief Justice of the County of Red River, his intention of diately— and considering the absolute ne[illegible] a Chief a Chief Justice in the [illegible]

County, but that he should be a man of honesty, integrity, talents and legal acquirements. We therefore recommend to the consideration of His Excellency, Andrew Jackson Foster, as a gentleman amply qualified to discharge the duties of the office of Chief Justice of Red River County

See file for names of petitioners

Thomas H. Smith Atty at Law

Recd Gov. Hogg 28th 1839

Co. Allen
relation of
Dr. Pilles of
Land Claim
& Relation
Petitions

Department of State

Sir

I have the honor to inform you, that I have received two copies of Original Titles of record, also twelve copies of the acts of the last Congress. The commissioner of the General Office of this Country have been received. I refer to your letter of date 24th April, the election of James Grimes as Surveyor, and S. H. Crane, as recorder, of the City of Aransas, the elections were held on the 21st of Jul. 1839.

I am &c. Allen Ecl.

Consulate of Mex.
New Orleans 31st May 1839

Mr. Bryan
Relative to
Col. Bee's
Reception at
Vera Cruz &
Hamdo &c.

Department of State

Sir

By the request of the Mexican Government Rodolfo Schoow Hamburg, I learn that the authorities of Vera Cruz have been furnished to Col. Bee to land there as a private individual, and which time as they have from the City of Mexico, how he was then to receive in his official capacity. Col. Bee has drawn a draft at sight for two hundred Dollars ($200) on the Consul General of this City, which has been returned for want of funds, and he has been forwarded to me for protection. I have made the Reception announced to have the same with such rule. I have now yet, which I trust by the same, if so, be pleased to remit the amount in New Orleans funds or its equivalent. I am informing the drawer to defray the contingent expenses of Col. Bee at Vera Cruz.

I am respectfully
your ob't servant
W. Bryan Consul

Executive Department
Nov 1839

Gentlemen

Chief Messrs and Chiefs of the Shawnees,

Brothers! We have long suspected that the Cherokees were our secret enemies: that while we were treating them with kindness, and they were professing friendship for us they were holding dark councils with the Mexicans. These suspicions are now reduced to absolute proof

The treachery and the hostile machinations of the Cherokees have been fully discovered. They have listened to the forked tongue of the Mexicans who are always treacherous, and they serpents in peace, and they have scornfully slighted their faith to the faithless. The Cherokees can no longer remain amongst us. They must return to the lands appropriated by their Great Father the President of the United States for the permanent residence of their people. There they will go in peace, and return no more, for we have no wish to shed their blood or the red man. Brothers! you are not Cherokees, and we believe you have not participated in their crafty and treacherous designs, or mingled your voices in their wicked councils. Be admonished and retire from all collusion with them, and with their impotent advisers beyond the Rio Grande. The Mexicans can render them no aid. They have fled no promise they may make to them or to you: for they are strong only in words. But they are willing to see the white men, and the red men employed in the mutual destruction of each other. They are willing to profit by the conflicts of nobler animals. We are much stronger now than when we conquered their best armies headed by their greatest war Chief, and drove them from our soil. Let not the Shawnees be deceived. The Mexicans will never return in battle array to Texas. Small skulking parties, may wind their way like snakes in the grass, along our unsettled frontier, where the feet of our warriors seldom tread, and if undetected may reach your cabins in safety. But they come with forking tongues, to beguile the red men, and to seduce them into a war with us, which they dare not encounter themselves. Brothers! listen not to evil counsel. Should the Cherokees refuse to leave our territory, force must be employed: for they must go. We can no longer permit such elements to remain amongst us. But let the Shawnees be wise and take no part in the controversy. Return at your homes, or pursue the game in peace. Let not the white man's blood sprinkle your paths or his property be the object of your prey. Indeed when the great council of Texas shall assemble, about the time the leaves begin to fall, and the grass becomes scarce, I will present your case to them in the words of truth. Thus trust, an amicable arrangement may be effected which will be satisfactory both to you and to us, and make smooth and pleasant the paths of the Shawnees, and of our people. Without confidence in what I say to you. I speak the language of truth, and have no hidden purpose to deceive you.

Mc. Blanco

Shellbyville 4th Apl. 1839.

A. M. Hansford
Nacogdoches
Davis Samuels
Esq. &c &c

Hon Secy of State

Sir

Permit me to state to you that by the promise of Col. Fa late Secy of State there is due me a copy of the late acts of Congress and also the journals of the last session both Houses and the of Coahuila & Texas &c &c. Refer to Mr. Amory Chief clerk of yr Department to whom I tender my respects. Please be so

to order me those Copies to be put up and directed to me per mail to this place together with a letter of notice and I will acknowledge the receipt of the same as soon as they come to hand — I shall be extremely happy to hear from you per mail and learn the latest intelligence with respect to our Diplomacy with such Courts as have or are likely soon to accredit us.

With great Consideration
your obt Humble Servt
John M. Hansford

Austin County Apl. 6th/39

Hon Secy of State

J. H. Money
Reception of
Packages
&c

Sir

In answer to your notice of the 26th ult. I have the honor to inform you that four packages two Volumes each, containing Abstract of Original Titles was received by this evening's mail.

with sentiments of due respect
I am your obt Servant
J. H. Money C. J

Republic of Texas
County of Fort Bend

W. Martin
Reception of
Packages
&c

Hon Secretary State

Received Apl. 6th 1839. by mail two packages contain=ing each two Copies of an "Abstract of Original Titles of Record" directed to me from the Department of State, for distribution to the Civil officers of this County. — this in addition to the three packages heretofore received containing two Copies each, for which I forwarded my receipt of the 30th March last to the Department of State, leaves two packages yet due of the no notified to me as having been mailed for this County.

Wyly Martin C. J. F. B. C

Clarksville Apl. 7th 1839

Nath. Amory Esq.
Chief Clk Dept. State

E. H. Tarrant
relative to the
laws &c

Sir

I have just received your favor of the 7th Feby (ult) informing me that you had forwarded three sealed packages directed to the Chief Justices Red River County, those Journals have not been received here or any Copies of the acts of the last Congress, They must have been lost or misSent I have been expecting a Copy or Copies of the acts of last Congress, and hope the Department will forward one if the Laws make any provision for this County obtaining any. — I have some time since complied with the requisition that you refer to in the Presidents Circular

Yours Respectfully
E. H. Tarrant C. J. R.

C. Aldrich
Election
Returns =
Reception of
abstracts of
original
Titles of Record
&c &c

Mustang Prairie 7th Apl

Hon Secy of State

Sir

Yours of the 15th March came to hands, and in answer I will state to you, that as far as I can understand the Law, that Justices of the peace should be elected for two years from the time of their election, but that there shall be elected on the first monday in Feby 1837, and every two years after one Sheriff and also one Coroner at the same time, and in the same manner as Sheriffs but I cannot find any law saying that Justices of the Peace shall be elected at that time. The acting justices of the Peace for the County of Houston are as follows.. for fort Houston C J Munia & G W Browning in and for Capt John Crists militia dist. for Crockett & Mustang Prairie Elijah Gossett and William Ricards in and for Capt B W Davis Militia Dist for San Pedro and Nacher. S. E. Kennedy and Reuben R Russell in and for Capt William. J. Sadalers Militia Dist. The County has been laid off in Militia Districts under the new organization, and elections for Company officers, will take place immediately, and in answer to yours of the 9th March I will answer that three Copies of Abstracts of Original Titles upon record only have been received, one by the politeness of Mr G. W. Hanchett, and two by mail. Your letter states that ten Copies were sent, the Journals referred to in yours of the 7th Feby came to hand and have been distributed

I am Gentlemen Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servt.
Collin Aldrich C J.

C. Vannoy
praying the
appointt of
J. Campbell
Ch Justice

Bexar Apl 8th 1839

His Excellency
M. B. Lamar

The undersigned take pleasure in recommending to your Excellency for appointment to the office of Chief Justice of the County of Gonzales the person of James Campbell Esq a Gentleman fully Competent and who has done service to the Country worthy of any appointment which may be made within his County.

We are with the highest respect your
Excellency's obt. Servant
(Signd) C Vannoy & others

Mr Martin
praying for
reelection
for Clerk
of Distt
Court =

Fort Bend County
April 8th 1839.

Hon Secy of State

I beg leave to report to the Hon the Secy of State through that Department to the Executive. That William H. Pool was elected Clerk of the District Court of said County on the 13th of June That on the 19th November following he left the County and Republic has not since returned, nor has any thing certain been heard of since he left.— He told me however that he would return beginning of Summer, but I am not on his

were, gave it as their Opinion that he never will, nor did he ever intend to return, he left much involved in debt, and his affairs generally, unsettled, left no Agent to attend to them.— He appointed a Deputy for a limited time only, which will expire this Summer.— I think the first of August the people apprehension that they may be without a Clerk, has prompted this report.— All which is respectfully submitted.

Wm Martin C.I

Galveston 9th Apl 1839

T. H. Cooke
Transmitting Hon James Webb
Mr Smith's
Bm Rs

Sir

I have the honor to enclose herewith the Bond of Genl Waller Smith, the Securities of which I presume will be entirely satisfactory

$250.
Hon Lucy Thompson
Forward $250
Lucy Webb.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
with great respect your obt Servt
T. H. Cooke

Mr P. Miller
Reception of Hon James Webb.
Abstract of
Original Titles
of Record.

Victoria Apl. 9th 1839

Sir

Your favor of the 21st last Mt. came to hand informing me that on that date you deposited in the Post Office in the City of Houston five packages each containing two copies, of an Abstract of Original Titles of records.— I have now the honor to inform you that only one of those packages has come to hand

Very Respectfully &c
Wm P. Miller C.I

D. J. Tolar
Reception of Hon Secy of State
Abstract of
Original Titles
of Record

Washington 9th Apl. 1839

Sir

Mine, of the ten packages containing abstracts of original Titles of "Records" referred to in your communication of the 26th of March have been received.— I shall take pains to have them distributed among the Civil officers of this County.

Very Respectfully
Dan'l J. Tolar C.I.

T. L. Bee
Introduction Hon James Webb.
Mr Beck.
Wished to
it on the
arrive

New Orleans Apl 9th 1839

My dear Sir

In introducing Mr Beck of Alabama I present you with a gentleman who will prove an acquisition to Texas should he be pleased with our Soil and Climate.— Mr Beck was originally of South Carolina which State he left to the great regret of his neighbours.— I wrote you from Mobile and enclosed the letter to Col White, which

I presume you received by the Columbian it informed you that I had missed Com. Hubrick by 15 hours but that the owner was hourly expected, and Capt Hall as had promised she should take me

I am with great esteem
Yours. W. B. E. Bee.

W. P. Scott
Reception of Hon James Webb
abstract of Sec'y of State
orig.l Titles

Brazoria 10th Apl. 1839.

Sir

Yours of the 26th march was duly received together with five packages containing an Abstract of original Titles the other two packages I presume will come to hand by next mail, as those that have been received came by two separate mails

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully &c
W. P. Scott. C. J. B. C.

W. Wadham
Relations to Hon James Webb
Com.ns &c. Sec'y of State
Journals,
abstract of
orig.l Titles
of record

Columbus Apl. 10th 1839

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a communication from the Department of State dated March 8th 1839, enclosing a commission for myself as Chief justice of Colorado County, and also commissions for Sheriff, District and County Court Clerks, Coroner and two justices of the peace, all of which have been duly received.— The two justices of the peace were elected in the places of William B. Neuces & William Daniel, for the Beat above the Nascosto on Lusky Seat road and west of the Colorado river.— In the other Beat no votes were given for justices of the peace— In reply to a communication of Feby 7th 1839. also duly received, and to another of march 26th which has recently come to hand, I have only to state that the three sealed packages containing journals directed to the Chief Justice of this County "mentioned in the first, as well as the seven packages containing each, two copies of an Abstract of Original Titles of Record", mentioned in the second have not as yet been received.— I will here take the liberty to suggest, that none of the officers of this County, so far as I am aware, have ever been provided with the Laws of Texas by your Department— The same may be said of the Colonization Laws— The Laws of Coahuila & Texas and the enactments of the provisional Government

I have the honor to be
your obt. Sr
William Wadham

Austin
Letter — To His Excellency
Letter to Mr. B. Lamar
In Location
of the Seat
of Govt

City of Houston 13th Apr. 1839

The Commissioners appointed under the act of Congress dated January 1839, for locating the permanent site of the Seat of Government for the Republic, have the honor to report to your Excellency.

That they have selected the Site of the Town of Waterloo, on the East Bank of the Colorado River with the lands adjoining as per the Deed of the Sheriff of Bastrop County bearing date March 1839, and per the relinquishments of Logan Vandeveer, James Rogers, G. D. Hancock, J. W. Harrell, and Aaron Burleson by Edward Burleson all under date of 7th March 1839, as the Site combining the greatest number of, and the most important advantages to the Republic by the location of the Seat of Government thereon, than any other situation which came under their observation within the limits assigned them, and as being therefore their choice for the location aforesaid.

We have the honor to represent to your Excellency that we have traversed and critically examined the Country on both sides of the Colorado and Brazos Rivers from the upper San Antonio road to, and about the falls, on both those Rivers and that we have not neglected the intermediate Country between them, but have examined it more particularly than a due regard to our personal safety, and prudently warrant. We found the Brazos River more central perhaps in reference to actual existing population, and found in its tributaries perhaps a greater quantity of fertile lands — than are to be found on the Colorado, but on the other hand we were of opinion that the Colorado was central in respect to Territory, and thus in connection with the great desiderations of health, fine water, Stone Stone Coal, Water power &c, being more abundant and convenient on the Colorado than on the Brazos River, did more than counterballance the supposed superiority of the lands, as well as the centrality of position in reference to population, possessed by the Brazos River.

In reference to the protection to be afforded to the frontier by the location of the Seat of Government, a majority of the Commissioners are of opinion that that object will be as well attained by the location upon one river as upon the other, being also of opinion that within a very short period of time following the location of the Seat of Government on the frontier, the extension of the settlements produced thereby, will engender other theories of defence, on lands now the homes of the Comanche and the Bison.

The Site selected by the Commissioners is composed of five Thirds of leagues of lands and two labors, all adjoining and having a front upon the Colorado river somewhat exceeding three miles in breadth. It contains seven thousand seven hundred and thirty five acres land and will cost the Republic the sum of Twenty one thousand dollars or thereabouts, one tract not being surveyed. Nearly the whole front is a Bluff of from thirty to forty feet elevation, being a termination of a Prairie containing perhaps two thousand acres, composed of a chocolate colored sandy loam, intersected by two beautiful streams of permanent and pure water, one of which forms at its debouche into the river, a timbered rye bottom of about

thirty acres. These rivulets rise at an elevation of from sixty to one hundred feet on the back of the site or tract, by means of which the contemplated city might at comparatively small expense be well watered, in addition to which are several fine bluff springs of pure water on the river at convenient dis=tances from each other. The site is at about two miles distant from and in full view of the mountains or breaks of the Table lands which, judging by the eye, are of about three hundred feet elevation. They are of Lime=stone formation and are covered with live oak, and dwarf cedars to their summits. On the site and its immediate vicinity, stone in inexhaustible quantities and great varieties is found almost fashioned by nature for the builders hands; Lime and stone coal abound in the vicinity, timber for firewood and ordinary building purposes abound on the tract, though the timber for building in the immediate neighbour=hood is not of so fine a character as might be wished, being mostly cottow wood, ash, Bur oak, Huckberry, Post oak and cedar, the last suitable for shingles and small frames. At the distance of eighteen miles West by South from the site, on Onion Creek, "a stream affording fine water power" is a large body of very fine cypress, which is also found at intervals up the river for a distance of forty miles, and together with immense quantities of fine cedar might readily be floated down the stream, as the falls two miles above the site present no obstructions to floats or rafts, being only a descent of about five feet in one hundred and fifty yards over a smooth bed of limestone formation very nearly resem=bling colored marble. By this route also immense quantities of stone coal, building materials, and in a few years Agricultural and mineral products for the contemplated City, as no rapids save those mentioned occur in the River below the San Saba, nor are they known to exist for a great distance above the junction of that stream with the Colorado. Opposite the site, at the distance of one mile, Spring Creek and its tributaries affords perhaps the greatest and most convenient water power to be found in the Republic, Walnut Creek distance six miles and Brushy Creek distant sixteen miles both on the east side of the River, afford very considerable water power. Extensive deposites of Iron Ore adjudged to be of a very superior quality is found within eight miles of the location. The section of country is generally well watered, fertile in a high degree and has every appearance of health and salubrity of climate. The site occupies and will effectually close the pass by which Indians and outlawed Mexicans have for ages past travelled east and west to and from the Rio Grande to Eastern Texas, and will now force them to pass by the way of Pecan Bayou and San Saba above the mountains and the sources of the Guadaloupe river.

The Commissioners confidently anticipate the time when a great thoroughfare shall be established from Santa Fe to our Sea ports, and another from Red River to Matamoras, which two routes must almost of necessity intersect each other at this point. They look forward to the time when this City shall be the emporium of not only the production of the rich soil of the San Saba, Puertenalis Llano and Pecan Bayou, but of all the Colorado and Brazos, as also of the produce of the rich mining known to exist on those streams. They are satisfied that a truly nation

could at no other point within the limits aforesaid them be reared up, not that other sections of the Country, are not equally fertile, but that no other combined so many, and such varied advantages and beauties, as the one in question. The imagination of even the romantic will not be disappointed on viewing the Valley of the Colorado, and the fertile and gracefully undulating Woodlands and luxurient Prairies at a distance from it. The most sceptical will not doubt its healthiness, and the citizens bosom must swell with honest pride when standing in the Portico of the Capitol of his Country he looks abroad upon a region worthy only of being the home of the brave and free. — Standing on the juncture of the roads of Santa Fe and the sea Coast of Red River and Matamoras, looking with the same glance upon the green Romantic Mountains, and the fertile and widely extended plains of his Country, can a feeling of nationality fail to arise in his bosom or could the fire of patriotism lie dormant under such Circumstances. —

Fondly hoping that we may not have disappointed the expectations of either our Countrymen or your Excellency, we subscribe ourselves your Excellency's most obt Servants — Signed A. Horton Chairman. J. H. Burton William Menefee Isaac Campbell, Louis P. Cook. Houston 15th Apl 1839

C. S. Taylor — resignation Hon James Webb
as Chf Justice Secy of State

Nacogdoches Apl 15th 1839

Sir

Most respectfully I beg leave to inform you that I this day resign my office as Chief Justice of the County, of which you will please inform his Excellency the President of the Republic

with high Consideration of esteem
Your very obedient Servant
Chas S. Taylor

J. S. Mayfield & others — His Excellency Mr. B. Lamar
praying to appoint
W. Hart
Chf Justice

Nacogdoches 15th Apl 1839.

Sir

The Undersigned having learned that Charles S. Taylor, late Chief Justice of the County Court of this County has tendered his resignation as such, Having learned that William Hart a resident of this town is willing to undertake the duties of that office, should it meet the approbation of the Executive

The undersigned take pleasure in recommending Mr Hart as an individual well qualified to fill said office, he has heretofore filled several offices, at this place to the satisfaction of the public, and should he be called upon to assume the varied duties appertaining to the office of Chief Justice &c we feel assured it would give general satisfaction, and be performed with a zeal and integrity of purpose Creditable to the Country

Respectfully yours
James S Mayfield & others

G. Howland praying the appoint^t of Consul —

New York 15th Apl 1839.

Hon James Webb

Sir

Having learned that the appointment of Consul for the Republic of Texas at New York is under the consideration of your Department and believing that I can fulfil the duties of that situation to the advantage and entire satisfaction of the Government, I beg leave to tender my services and respectfully to solicit said appointment. — An answer may be directed to me at this place, whenever it may suit your convenience. — Desiring your attention to the accompanying testimonials to which more might be added if deemed necessary

I have the honor to be
with great respect &c
Gideon Howland

Recom^d G. Howland to the office of Consul —

New York 15th Apl 1839

We the undersigned are acquainted with Mr Gideon Howland as a gentleman of reputation and integrity — and believe him well qualified to fill the situation of Consul for which he applies, and most confidently recommend him for the same. —

Signed Grambill Winburn & Co Goodhue & Co Howland & Aspinwall

Gonzales Apl 18th 1839

Hon James Webb.

Sir

I acknowledge the receipt of having received Eight (8) copies of the Abstracts of the original Land Titles, which you have referred to in your letter directed to the Chief Justice of this County he has resigned his office, and requested I would answer your letter

Very Respectfully
Ezekiel Williams

E. Williams — reception of abstract of the original Land Titles

Nacogdoches 19th Apl 1839.

T. J. Rusk praying the appoint^t of Chas S Taylor Chf Justice

Dear Genl.

Allow me to introduce to your acquaintance my friend Mr Wm Hart a gentleman with whom I have an acquaintance of better than two years — Mr Hart has informed me that he will be an applicant for the appointment of Chief Justice of this County to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Chas S Taylor — Mr Hart is a gentleman well qualified to discharge the duties of the office he aspires to and one whose appointment will give very general satisfaction

I am truly Yours
Thos J Rusk

Nacogdoches Apl. 14th 1839

C. Walters
resignation as
Commr to take
charge of the
property of
rebellious
persons

Gentlemen

Owing to circumstances relating to myself, I am under the necessity of tendering to you a resignation of the trust reposed in me by the Hon. Congress in appointing me one of the Commissioners to take charge of the property of those engaged in the late rebellion in this County. Feeling it the duty of every citizen to perform such part as may be assigned him in the administration of the laws of his Country when it is consistent with her condition and individual engagements. I yield only to the force of circumstances on this occasion. I am however aware that nothing will be lost by my resignation as another can be selected without any delay to fill the vacancy.

Very Respectfully
Signed B. C. Walters.

Peter Ripps & Adolphus Sterne
Comrs to take charge of property
in late rebellion.

Nacogdoches County 20th Apl 1839.

Hon Secy of State

Sir

C. Walters
Letter to
Sec of State
original Files
of Record

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of note of 26th March, and state that the copies of an Abstract of original Files of record have not been received, and further that your present is the only communication received from your office since March 3rd 1835

Yours Respectfully &c
James C. Allen C.C.

M. Martin
receipt of Hon Secy of State
Abstract of
original Files
of Record
Laws &c

Fort Bend County 20th Apl 39

Received 20th Apl 1839. by mail one package, containing two copies of an Abstract of original Files of Records directed to me from the Department of State for distribution to the civil officers of the County. Also in addition, to the three packages containing two copies each, received and receipted for on the 30th March last and the two packages containing two copies each received and receipted for on the 6th Apl last. leaves one package with two copies yet due, of the 1st notified to me as having been mailed for this County.

Willy. Martin C.C.

M. Martin
receipt of Hon Secy of State
Laws —

Fort Bend County 20th Apl 39.

Received by mail, three packages containing each six copies of the Laws of the Republic of Texas passed 1st Session of Third Congress, 18 Copies for distribution to the Civil officers of the County —

Willy Martin C.C.

R. Sample
relative to
the boundary
line between
U. States
and Texas

Clarksville Apr. 20th 1839

His Excellency
M. B. Lamar

Sir

The bearer Mr Wells ams, a young gentleman of worth and probity will hand you several petitions numerously and respectably signed by the citizens of this County, and in which the views of the whole people are expressed in regard to the running of the boundary line between our Government and that of the United States. — your Excellency will observe that to one of the petitions several names are signed by the same hand, when that petition was written the people in the vicinity of the County seat were extremely anxious that it should be forwarded as soon as possible, and to save the time and trouble that it would have required to have presented it to every man personally several prominent and responsible men assumed the responsibility of subscribing the names of their most intimate acquaintances and neighbours. — Many in the Section has refused to sign the petition but we have not been able to present them to all, there is no doubt, but that it is the unanimous wish of eastern Texas that the boundary line shall be run under the present treaty — not less unanimous than was the vote for your Excellency in Sept. last. — Some suspect or fear that your Excellency may hesitate to appoint another Commr until the meeting of the next Congress, but console themselves with the hope that you may constitutionally appoint a Commissr and set him to work forthwith, and submit his operations and nomination at the same time to the next Senate. Our citizens are not tenacious as to the appointment or selection of all the necessary officers to run the line from this section of the Republic. — They are not at all selfish or disposed to monopolize, but will be well satisfied with any appointments that your Excellency may make. on account of their limited acquaintances with gentlemen in other bordering Counties, they were compelled to fill up their nominations with the names of persons in this County, as your Excellency will observe; by your proceedings of our County meeting which have been forwarded. — All that they ask or expect is that your Excellency in making a selection of Commr & Surveyor &c will observe a policy similar to that observed by the President of the United States, in appointing the officers on the part of that Government.

Have the honor to remain
with great respect &c
R. Sample

Mr. E. Williams Comr.
relative to
running the
boundary line
between U.S.
and Texas

City of Houston May 15th 1839

His Excellency M. B. Lamar
President of the Republic of Texas

Sir

The undersigned a Commissioner appointed by the citizens of Red River County in public meeting assembled — has the honor herewith to enclose the proceedings of said meeting, together with their undivided petition for the appointment of the necessary

the part of our government, to act in conjunction with those already appointed by the United States (of the North) to carry into effect the Treaty existing between this government and that of the United States, relative to running the boundary line between the same. The deep solicitude and great anxiety felt by our citizens to have this line run impells me to give you some local information, and a few facts connected with this all absorbing question. There has through some unknown source a rumor got in circulation that your Excellency is disposed to postpone the running of this line according to the Treaty stipulations limiting the time to the 12th Octr next, this rumour together with the fact that some of the representatives in the last Congress from Red River County were of opinion that it would be bad policy to carry the treaty into effect at this time, that has caused the excitement above referred to, the opinion was felt by them honestly, and so expressed, but it certainly is contrary to the wish and opinion of every other citizen of that county - which will be fully proven to you by the petition itself. If such has been the opinion of your Excellency, the belief of which I cannot entertain for a moment, permit me Sir, ~~to~~ respectfully to remind you of what will be the deep injury and irreparable loss to Texas by postponing the 1st Jan. revenue, there has been from 11 to 1200 Certificates of Land granted in Red River and Fannin Counties as their records show, the amount due the Government is from 10 to 30 Dollars a league, say $30,000 - This will not be paid nor can it during the suspension of the operations of the land office in that section, a loss measure, I think until the line is run, loss of duties on goods imported thru by Red River or Red River into Texas, from the best evidence I have been able to collect, the amount imported through this channel will yield a revenue of 25 or 30 thousand Dollars day the first Jany, here is a loss of $25,000, and that too at this time is much wanted, but this is not all, the Land tax in this disputed territory will not be paid until the lands are patented - (there are not a more willing people in existence to pay taxes than the citizens of Red River County, for proof of that fact many of our citizens have paid taxes to Arkansas - notwithstanding they had unanimously paid their taxes to Texas for the same year (1838) and upon the same property - here then will be a loss of ten thousand dollars direct tax $10,000. In addition to this if the lands on Red River were patented 150 or 200 leagues on that stream including its meanderings would be worth from $5 to 10 dollars per acre and of course be taxed accordingly under our advalorem scheme of assessment - 2nd The second great injury that will be inflicted on this section of Texas is that the citizens will have the burthens of two jurisdictions on them at the same time without enjoying the benefit of either, by reason of their being in conflict with each other, and the absolute uncertainty of both, for proof of which there have (already) been instituted from 20 to 30 law suits against the citizens of Red River and Fannin Counties, in the District Court of the U States held at Little Rock the seat of Government for the State of Arkansas thus our citizens (defendants), are to harassed with litigation hundreds of miles from their homes, without the least prospect of justice from an Arkansas jury as their past experience has fully proven, and this too in disregard of the late Treaty between the United States and Texas, which I am not misinformed provides that the jurisdiction of the two Governments shall remain as heretofore, and Texas has exercised exclusive

jurisdiction over this Section ever since her land laws went into opera-
tion. The District Judge of Arkansas had long before that failed
to hold his Courts in Miller now Red River County. I will here
inform your Excellency that the jurisdiction of Texas in the County
of Red River has not interfered with the jurisdiction of Arkansas
in the County of Lafayette lying and situated immediately between
Red River County and the disputed line as run by Genl Jesup
although the County of Lafayette is within the limits of the County
of Red River, yet the jurisdiction of Texas has never been exercised
further than to grant land certificates to the citizens without per-
mitting any Survey made in said Lafayette County. The exterior
of the jurisdiction of Texas over this disputed territory was acknowledged
by her Convention in 1836 by the reception of the members (elected) from
Pecan Point) Red River, and confirmed by her Congress at its first
Session. Also acknowledged by the United States in her acknowledgement
of our Independence, and last of all by Arkansas! for at the last
Session of her legislature a "resolution" was unanimously adopted
requiring the Committee on memorials, to pray the Congress of the
United States to purchase or otherwise acquire all that country once
called Miller County South of Red River, thereby virtually acknowledging
they had no right to it whatever. But a deeper and more fatal injury
awaits us than the foregoing. You can see at once that our military laws
cannot be carried into effect nor can the Civil laws be enforced, you
will recollect Sir, that by an act of the last Congress of our Republic
all original jurisdiction was taken away from the County Courts on Sunday
of and throughout. this has increased the number of suits now pending
in the District Court for Red River County to 150 to 200. besides the Criminal
Cases, these Convicts must either be turned out upon the Community, or
remain in Confinement without any prospect of a trial before them—
whether the first be guilty or the second innocent, in either case the alter-
native evil, and must be a departure from justice. At the same time the
operations of the land offices are suspended in this County the titles to our land
withheld, the Judge of the District Court has failed to hold a Court this
Spring. what now will be the condition of this people, will it be anything
but Confusion, and to use the language of a Celebrated writer "It literally
amounts to a denial of justice" a denial of the rights of the citizens
of this Section, and a prostration of all order and government among
them, this Section includes three Counties (viz) Harrison Red River and
Fannin, extending 350 or 400 miles from east to west, and from North to
South 130 to 150 miles, with little less than 2000 fighting men, and perhaps
more than that number at this time, enough at least to protect
that Section from any Indian force that can be sent on that
frontier. 3rd. There is a third injury which may possibly be inflicted
on Texas in her national character, the United States at their last
Session of Congress past an act appropriating Dollars to defray the
expense of defining this boundary line in good faith according to the
Treaty, and the President, as announced in their official paper
Globe) has appointed the proper officers on their part, who
ready to carry the stipulations of the

question is, would not a failure on our part be a breach of good faith between Governments, and would it not be viewed by the world as a violation of the most Solemn Compact that can be entered into between independent Governments or nations, and to say the least of it would it not give a "handle" as was once said by Mr Jefferson to the enemies of Texas, to promulge to the world; what they could declare they had always said, that there was no good faith to be expected from Texas & that they were changeable and variable, and that there was no solid reliance to be placed in the Republic, nor foundation for its duration I fear it would afford this pretext, but I leave that for your Excellency to determine, but really it wears that aspect to my humble understanding In addition to the foregoing I would urge upon your Excellency the appointment of the individuals nominated by the meeting before alluded to for reason that they are worthy and well qualified, to discharge the duties which will be required of them, and will enter upon the discharge of that duty without delay, although the appropriation may be considered by some too small, yet I will venture to say, that whether the individuals nominated receive one cent or not, this would not retard their operations All of which is respectfully submitted to the consideration of his Excellency, while I have the honor to subscribe myself his most obt. Servant

Jno K Williams Comr.

A. H. Latimer (Chairman)

Red River County 16th Apr 1839

Proceedings of a meeting relative to running the boundary line of U.S. and Texas

At a large and Respectable meeting of the citizens of Red River County held in the Court house in the town of Clarksville on Monday the 15th Apr 1839, the Hon E H. Tarrant was called to the chair and D Sample appointed Secretary.— After the object of the meeting had been explained by Dandridge Ellis Esq. to be for the purpose of adopting measures to represent, fully and efficiently, to our Chief Magistrate, the interest and wishes of the people in this Section of Texas, in regard to the running of the boundary line, between this Government and that of the United States of the North, and to urge upon his Excellency the expediency and (to us) all important necessity, of having that line demarcated under the authority and provisions of the Treaty at present existing upon the subject, it was on motion of John B. Craig Esqr, Unanimously —

Resolved, That our fellow citizen William McWilliams, Esq be deputed as Commissioner to repair forthwith to Houston, and to represent to his Excellency President Lamar, on behalf of the inhabitants of the County of Fannin & Red River, their unanimous wish that the boundary line between the United States and Texas, may be run in the shortest possible time; and that our Commissioner present personally to the President, the petitions that have been so numerously, and respectably signed by our citizens, and which their interests views and wishes are more fully expressed.—

On motion the meeting was adjourned until morrow at 12 O'clock P.M.

The citizens re-assembled pursuant to adjournment Judge Tarrant resigned his seat as chairman and Major A. H. Latimer was called to succeed him.— Whereupon

it was resolved That the running of the boundary line is of the most vital importance to the interests of this people, and that the welfare and prosperity of the Counties contiguous to the line, depend upon the demarcation of it under the existing Treaty.—

Resolved, That in order to expedite the running of the line, and to render to our Chief Magistrate all the assistance within our power, we hereby respectfully suggest that the appointment of David Sample of Red River County as Commissioner to run the line, C. R. Johns of Red River County as Surveyor, and John T Harmon of Red River County as Secretary, would meet the approbation of the Citizens of this section of the Republic as we, who are most directly and intimately concerned, are willing to rely upon their integrity & capacity.

Resolved However that should the President see fit to appoint other gentlemen than those named in the foregoing resolution we shall most cheerfully and willingly concur.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by all of the members thereof, and that a copy be furnished our Commissioner, Mr Williams as a credential of Agency to represent us personally to the Government at Houston. See file for names.—

Signed A H Latimer Chairman

To His Excellency M B Lamar
President of the Republic of Texas

Your Petitioners citizens of Red River County would respectfully urge upon your consideration the great necessity and importance of your having the boundary line between this Government and the United States defined according to the Treaty— we who reside in this disputed territory will soon have to suffer and bear the burdens of two Governments without receiving the benefits of either— we will here beg leave briefly to suggest to the wisdom of your Excellency in our opinions the reasons why this line should be run immediately; In the first place, in this state of uncertainty no man can obtain a title to his home, which renders the people dissatisfied paralizes their exertions and energy and retards the prosperity of the Country.— In the second place many of our citizens are sued in the Federal Court of Arkansas, and have necessarily to be dragged 150 or 200 miles from their homes and the matter in controversy to be tried by strangers (viz the people of Arkansas) who are repugnant to us and as deadly hostile to the best interest of this section of the Country, as the Indians or Mexicans can be.— In the third place procrastination in this matter only increases the difficulty of running the line, when the conflicting interests of individuals become more numerous, and the Governments more excited on the subject; for a confirmation of this fact we refer your Excellency to the disputed boundaries of the different States of the U States, and particularly to Maine and Canada.— And fourthly the Militia Law can not strictly obeyed nor can the Civil Law be carried into full force. fifthly by the running of this line the Government of Texas a considerable revenue from the blue and ar

and import duties; Sixthly Should Texas refuse or neglect to run this line with the U States by the appointed time she would violate on her part a solemn treaty recently entered into by both Governments. On the other hand we can see no reasonable objections why this line should not be speedily run, the more argument that our immediate neighbour Arkansas may afford us some protection in case of Indian invasion do not weigh a feather with us. We would as soon expect to see the Mississippi flow back to the Mountains as the sun to change his course as to receive any assistance from that source, In the most perilous situation of our country the summer of 1836 when our population was sparse and the most of our citizens in the field of Texas Arkansas gave us no aid, we had to defend ourselves, we are still able and determined to do so, relying implicitly upon the sound discretion and wisdom of your Excellency's to extend to us that relief your power will permit and our situation demands, we with high consideration & regard subscribe ourselves your fellow citizens

See file for names of petitioners — Signed Nathan S. Ellis

H. Owen relative to the conviction of J R Harding for perjury

Franklin April 1839.

To His Excellency M. B. Lamar President of the Republic of Texas

Dear Sir

Enclosed I forward to your Excellency a petition in favor of Jonathan R Harding who was in the third of the last convicted of perjury the jurors who convicted him cheerfully signed the petition the States Council signed, and I believe all who had an opportunity of signing it did so the petition however shows for itself. The Hon. Hugh Mills has suspended the execution of his judgement until information can be had from your Excellency

I am very Respectfully I subscribe myself
Your Obedient Servant
Hanson Owen

H. Owen relative to the conviction of J R Harding for perjury & praying reprieve for said Harding

To His Excellency M. B. Lamar President of the Republic of Texas

Your petitioners would beg leave to represent to your Excellency that Johnathan R. Harding a citizen of Robertson County has been this day tried and convicted of perjury, the circumstances of which are briefly these, he took the oath before the land commissioners of our county, which the law requires an applicant to do, he was indicted and the evidence was that he had when called on by Maj S. C Robertson to go against the Indians, in the spring of 1836, his horse was fresh & in service, there was and is yet doubt whether Mr Robertson had authority we think your Excellency will find by an examination of said oath that a refusal to go against the Indians is not therein contemplated we think that an unjustifiably excited, public opinion has done more towards his conviction than the real facts of the case, it was also in testimony on the said trial that the said Harding, at different times according to his best ability furnish different and small

parties of Soldiers, with prisoners during the said Spring of 1836, this is to pray your Excellency that you will exercise your pardoning power and reprieve the said Harding the Judge of the Court has suspended the execution of his judgement until information can be received from you.

See file for names of petitioners . Signed M. Owen

Mexican Consulate
New Orleans 20th Apr. 1839.

Wm Bryan
relative to Hon James Webb.
Response &c Secy of State

Sir

Your favor of the 13th inst. is duly at hand, the letter enclosed for James Erwin Esq. I delivered immediately on the receipt of the same — By the Steam Ship Columbia I have shipped one box containing the ballance of the paper ordered by the Department of State to the Collector at Galveston, and requested him to forward the same as early as practicable

Very Respectfully
Your friend
Wm Bryan

W. P. Hyche
Inception of New Secy of State
his commission as
Chf Justice =
Abstract
orig. Titles
of Record -
Journals &c

Milam 20th Apr. 1839.

Sir

Yesterday's mail placed me in possession of a Commission appointing me Chief Justice for this County, dated 12th Feby last — also two letters from your Department bearing dates, the 7th Feby and 26th March — The reception of the above Communications at this time, will at once explain to you the seeming cause of neglect and delay — The journal referred to in yours of the 7th February have not arrived — nor either package of them. — Owing to the peculiar situation of affairs in this County, at this time, arising from the circumstance of there having been no Chief Justice for some 8 or 10 months it will not be in my power to transmit the information called for by the proclamation of the 15th January last — There has been no legal officer to qualify those officers elected on the first monday in Feby last, into office — and in fact doubts have arisen, from high authority respecting the legality of the said elections — as they were issued by the associate Justices when the law seems to recognize no authority in such cases but the Chief Justices — I have written to the atty Genl asking his opinion in relation to this matter so soon as I receive it, I will at as early a time as possible meet the requisitions of proclamation — The documents named in the letter of the 26 March, Com "Abstract of original titles of record" came to hand yesterday. — Laws of the 1st Session of Congress have never been received

Very &c
W. P. H.

Washington 23 Apl. 1839.

D. Tolen relative to the reception of Laws &c

Hon Secy of State

By the mail which arrived here yesterday I received four packages, each containing six copies of "Laws of the Republic of Texas" passed first Session of Third Congress, I presume that they were intended for distribution among the Civil officers of the County, and have accordingly delivered about one half to applicants (officers) the ballance shall be distributed at the earliest opportunity.

Very Respectfully
Wm. S. Tolen

Montgomery County 22nd Apl. 1839

J. Grimes relative to the reception of abstract of orig.l Titles of Records

Hon Secy of State

Sir

I have had the honor to receive your communication of the 26th ult. informing me that you had deposited in the Post office five packages, containing each two copies of an Abstract of the original titles of records for distribution. I learn that these packages have been received at the Post office at Montgomery.—

Very Respectfully Your
Jesse Grimes Chf Jus.

Jasper Apl 25th 1839

J. Bevil relative to abstracts of orig.l Titles of Records

Mr. T. Emery Chief Clerk
Department of State

Sir

I received yours of the 26th March, which informed me that you deposited in the post office Six packages containing each two copies of an Abstract of Original Titles of Record, directed to me of which I have only received two packages containing each two copies, we have had one mail since— which brought none, the probability is that the ballance are lost or miscarried.

Very Respectfully
John Bevil

New York 27 Apl. 1839.

A. Blackford urging the appointt of Howland Consul.

Hon R. G. Dunlap

Dear Sir

My friend Mr Gideon Howland (of the firm of Packard & Howland) being about making application to your Government for the appointment of Texian Consul for this place. Permit me to request the favor of your influence in his behalf Mr Howland is one of our most respectable and active Merchants, and full reliance may be placed upon him in every respect, and should you think proper to aid him you will much oblige

Very Respectfully
your obt friend
A. Blackford

Tipps. copy of)
resignation of
A. Hoffman &
J. C. Walters
Comm.rs to
take charge
of property
of rebellious
persons &
Bond of
succession

Nacogdoches
1st June 1839.

Sir

I send you enclosed copies of the resignation of Mr Ira H. Stone and Benj.n W. Walters, two of the Commissioners appointed by an act, entitled an act to appoint Commissioners to take charge of the property of those engaged in the late rebellion in the County of Nacogdoches, approved 26th May 1839. By virtue of the Sixth Section of said act, I have the honor to report that Melchijah Stone & Isaac Crane, are appointed to fill the vacancies occasioned by the resignation of the above named gentlemen; who upon giving the necessary Security were duly Sworn & entered upon the duty of their office.

I have the honor to be
yours very Respect.
S. A. Tipps Clk

A. H. Kirchhoffer.
Resignation
as Chf Justice
& Recom.dng
J. Collins to
said office

Crockett Houston Cty
June 1st 1839.

Sir

Enclosed I return the commission of Chief Justice of this County, which his Excellency the President was pleased to confer upon me. In doing so permit me to express a grateful sense of the honor done me — which coming from such a source I know how to appreciate. I would take the liberty of recommending Mr John Collins as a proper person to fill the vacancy. He is a man of business, a gentleman, and a disinterested scholar, and one that I am confident would deserve His Excellency's approbation. with the character Hence the Hon Sec.y of State & Treasury is acquainted.

I remain very Respectfully
A. H. Kirchhoffer

H. Mauter
Relative to
his signature

Franklin June 1st 1839

J. Amos Clk of Clk
Supt of State

Sir

Yours of the 27th April, came to hand on the 31st inst. enquiring whether respecting my signature, which was attached to returns of elections forwarded to the Secretary of State respecting the civil officers of Robertson County, at the time that instructions were forwarded, me found me in a situation that I could not write my own name — I therefore requested the Clerk of the County Court to write, which I carefully examined and ordered him to sign my name, which he did according to request, he is sometimes in the habit of signing my name differently to the manner I sign it (Hz) Slaughter instead of Slauter the instrument presented by Mr Stroud, which you attended to in your note was my own act.

Respectfully Yours
Franz Slauter

Mr. Smyth recd. of the Appointt. of surveyor to run boundary line &c &c

Comptr. of Justice June 1st 1839

His Excellency
M. B. Lamar.

Sir

On yesterday received yours of the 13th and also of the 23rd ult. in which you did me the honor to render me the appointment of Surveyor for the purpose of running the boundary line between the Government and the United States. I accept the appointment, and hold myself ready at any moment to comply with orders of the Government on that subject.

Of surveys made by persons on Texas side there are two duplicates and three that can be made and the other by private conveyance.

I am very respectfully
George W Smyth

Sam Whiting
Relative to
Copies of laws.

Houston June 3rd 1839

C. J. Mosely

Sir

Since my return this morning I have seen Judge Hill and have concluded to furnish the six hundred Copies more, or as many more as required by the State Department, of the laws of first Session 3rd Congress. Judge Hill informs me that he said to Mr Jones that I would do the work if it mistended, his order no doubt to him, will thank you to send me an order (written) for the 600 copies or more if wanted.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
Sam Whiting

E. L. Holmes
bringing the
appointt of
Cyrus Sayre
Consul-City
Phila

Milledgeville June 6th 1839.

His Excellency
M. B. Lamar.

Sir

Having been favored with a personal copy of a letter addressed to your Excellency by Mr G. W. Ward a citizen of our place, representing the necessity and importance of having a Texian Consul at the City of Philadelphia, and soliciting the appointment (if made) of Mr Cyrus Sayre of that place, I am induced to lend my feeble assistance in promoting the object desired. With regard to the policy and propriety of making such an appointment I would be wholly unprepared to make any remark. It only remains for me to say whether or not the recommendation of Mr Ward is worthy of your consideration. Upon this head I take great pleasure in observing that from my intimate acquaintance with Mr Ward, and my personal knowledge of his worth as a citizen and enterprising citizen, I know of no man whose suggestions and recommendations upon any matter touching the interests of our Country, would

more warmly and heartily approve, Mr Ward is one of our most extensive merchants, and one of the largest proprietors of our growing town. — I indulge the hope, that it will please your Excellency to appoint a Consul at Philadelphia; and confer the place upon the gentleman recommended by Mr. Ward.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
your obt & humble Servt
E S Holmes.

Matagorda 7th June 1839

G. W. Ward — praying the appointment of Cyrus Fay Consul — City Phila

His Excellency
Mr. B. Lamar.

Sir

I would respectfully beg leave to suggest to the favorable consideration of your Excellency, the very considerable assistance the mercantile interests of Texas would receive from the appointment of a Consul at Philadelphia. The trade with that port and especially the emigration from it, are daily becoming of importance to the prosperity of Texas, and from my correspondence in that city I am informed a considerable emigration, to Texas, could be given by a properly authorized Agent of the Govt residing there.

I would be happy to lay before your Excellency the name of Cyrus Fay Esq. of the South front Street of that City as a person well qualified to fill such a station. Mr Fay I have known for many years as a correct intelligent and upright man, who has taken an interest in the affairs of Texas quite uncommon in the North & for 12 months past have been actively engaged in procuring shipments & Emigrants for the Country to which he has sent several vessels. From his correspondence with this Country I think him better calculated to give correct and useful information to those doing business with us than any one in that City. He is much connected with a wealthy German House, meditating a plan for settling a Community of Germans near the City of Austin for supplying this Market of that kind with whatever may be required & I doubt not they will be able to introduce many hundreds of that useful class of Agriculturists.

Mr Fay is about 50 years of age, of liberal education exemplary character and habits and having a family whose welfare depends upon his exertions and correct deportment, I doubt not should your Excellency be pleased to appoint him he will give entire satisfaction in the discharge of his duties. As a stranger to your Excellency I beg leave to refer to Gen. Hugh McLeod Adjt Genl & Hon. L. P. Cooke Sec. Navy, who will be able to answer any enquiries in regard to myself.

I am Sir with great respect
your Excellency's
most obt Servt
G. W. Ward

[illegible] 1839

[Margin: [illegible] attached [illegible] Record & [illegible] Returns &c]

Hon [illegible]
[illegible] State

Sir,

[illegible] of [illegible] there [illegible] in which the [illegible] for [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] would have been [illegible] [illegible] communication [illegible] Department [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] communication [illegible] [illegible] order to carry out the [illegible] at the last session [illegible] [illegible] consideration [illegible] the Proclamation of the President [illegible] to increase the number of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] increased the number of [illegible] the State [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Servant
[illegible]

[illegible] 1839

[Margin: Sam Whiting relative to Public printing &c]

Hon [illegible]
Secy of State

Sir,

In consequence of the recent [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] establishments [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] consequence, also of the increased [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] it impossible to do the Public Printing [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] of [illegible] 1838. [illegible] [illegible] made the discount on the Promissory notes [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] on the dollar [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and at that time we were only paying [illegible] seventy five cents per thousand, and are now [illegible] to pay [illegible] dollar and sixty cents for [illegible]. — Besides, when [illegible] made that proposition it was distinctly understood by them that [illegible] for the paper used in printing the Laws Journals &c. but in consequence of this understanding not having been distinctly expressed in their proposition, it has since been held as a matter of doubt in the department whether or not such an understanding existed in their contract and the charge for paper has in several instances been disallowed, and consequently I have sustained a loss upon all the work done where that has been the case. I am [illegible] [illegible] to proceed with the Public printing and do it upon terms which will barely pay for the labor and expenses, and therefore propose the following believing them to be as low as the work can be done at [illegible],

the present state of things without a loss. I will contract to print works of any size for 38$ for the first 250 copies of 8 pages & for each succeeding hundred and fifty copies of the same size at 11½ provided the paper is furnished, or I may receive for it, as soon print everything and receive the work for 34$ for the first 250 copies of 8 pages & for each succeeding two hundred & fifty of same size 11$ and in every case use the celebrated cutting fluid machine for 25 cents for each one hundred pages

I am very Respectfully
your most obt Servt
Sam Whiting

Clarksville June 10th 1839

Wm. M. Williams-
Relation to Mrs Excellency
Com. of Dr W. S. Lamar
Suit to run
boundary line-
A. S. Hamlin
Chf Justice

Mr Sir

After my most sincere respect permit me, Sir, to inform your Excellency that I have united life at home; and amid the sound of war hostile movements of the Indians on our frontier, all is peace and we have prospect for good crops, our citizens received the assurance that the boundary line would be speedily settled, with marked gratitude, and every face seemed a smile; I did not see a tear, mourning, but the reverse at her residence. I am informed that he will receive the appointment of Commissioner to run the boundary line according to the Treaty stipulations but should the fact (of which he will inform you) I must again urge the appointment of some other Southern gentleman, residing within this district, who will meet Mr. Judge A. S. Lamar, late Chief Justice of our Country, with suitable accommodations. If you are not prepared to accept my nomination, when I had the honor to present your Excellency with the name of Judge Lamar (preferred) your Excellency cannot make a better appointment than that of an honest citizen, a Gentleman, a Ranger, & Mr Indian war. The appointment, and a respectable member of our bar, and in every respect worthy and competent to discharge the duties of this Institution, I am

Very respectfully your most obedient Servt
William M. Williams

Matagorda June 10th 1839

D. C. Mosby
Resignation
as Chf Justice-
Sec of State

Sir

This is to notify you that I have this day resigned the office of Commissioner in and for the County of Matagorda
Republic of Texas

Respectfully
Yours
D. C. M.

Hall
Calm &c
Draft on
Treasury

Houston June 13th 1839

Recd a draft from the Secy of State on the Treasurer for five hundred dollars, to be remitted to William Swan Consul at New Orleans to pay drafts drawn on him by Gen. Samuel E. Dee on Gregores Parish Mt. New Orleans for $511
$510.

Edward Hall

New Orleans 13th June 1839

To the Hon the Secy of State

Sir

E. Sequin
difficulties
in Mexico
&c—

From the most we have we can learn that our difficulties in Mexico progressing, and that the Federal Party are acquiring a little. Our Country is healthy and enjoying tranquility in every part except from Indian depredations, which continue to rage across the frontier on this section. Our crops are promising at the season continue, our farmers will reap fine crops of corn &c &c which you will make known to His Excellency the President

I am Respectfully
Your Obt Servt &c

Galveston June 3rd 1839

S. Swartwout
soliciting the
appoint of
F.M. Allen
Consul Port
of Phia.

Hon Francis G. Pumel
Actg Secy of State

Dear Sir

Excuse the liberty I intend on
upon the subject of this letter, but as I am been informed of your being at present engaged in the duties of Secretary of State, and not having the pleasure of an acquaintance with the Late Sir Secretary induces me to make the enquiry of your Excellency, of them as a Consul for Texas resident for Philadelphia. Gentlemen have been interested by several Gentlemen in Philadelphia to recommend an appointment to them to that City, I have invariably refused to do so, but should there be a vacancy in the Consulate to Philadelphia I take the liberty of soliciting an appointment in favor of Samuel Allen Esq of that City, and from knowing the good character manifested by Mr. Allen in the cause of Texas, honest and disinterested disposition, general information, and steady habits, industry and honesty of character, are of some what had many opportunities of judging of, residing here earlier as I have. Once an office citizen of he would appreciate, and more engage a higher reputation in his Community or more nearly the Texas than Mr. Allen or better calculated to advance the interest of Texas or her citizens than he, and should it be the pleasure of the President to confer the Favor solicited, I feel assured, should feel confidence, in making an application in favor of my friends through your Excellency as a source through which if at all he might be received

Hoping the cares of official duties may
permit yourself and lady, to enjoy an second

Letters Recommending

C. Naylor
Soliciting the Hon. R. G. Dunlap
appointt. of Minister
E. D. Tarr
Consul = Port
of Phila.

Sir

Make the liberty to recommend to your consideration W. A. Tarr Esq. as a gentleman well qualified to act as Consul for your Republic, at this place. Mr Tarr is a gentleman of talent and industry in whose ability and integrity your Government may repose entire confidence, I have no doubt that if he were appointed he would discharge the duties of his office satisfactorily

With great respect
I have the honor to be
your obt Servt
Charles Naylor.

Philadelphia June 7th 1839

D. M. Prescott
praying the Hon R. G. Dunlap
appointt. of
E. D. Tarr
Consul = Port
of Phila.

Sir

An acquaintance of over eight years with Elisha W. Tarr Esq of this City, enables me with confidence to recommend him in all respects qualified to discharge the duties appertaining to the Consulship for the Republic of Texas and Commissioned to take acknowledgements of deeds and other legal instruments in Penna. to be used in Texas and should be gratified to hear of his appointment. The importance of having officers appointed to fill these stations is generally acceded.—

I have the honor to be
your obt Servt
M. M. Prescott

Philadelphia June 8th 39.

E. Knowlton
Soliciting the Hon. R. G. Dunlap
appointt. of
E. D. Tarr
Consul = Port
of Phila.

Sir

We would select your favorable notice to the credentials of Elisha W. Tarr Esq for the appointment to the office of Consul and Commissioned at this Port from the Republic of Texas, a Representative from the Republic is much wanted in this State and the Commercial part of the community labor under many disadvantages for the want of such an officer. In the talents and abilities of Mr Tarr we have the fullest confidence and believe he would honorably fill such an appointment if conferred upon him.

With high Consideration
Ebenezer Kane
Hook

Philadelphia June 8th 1839.

For
giving the
appointt of
Mr. B. Lamar
Consul, for
port Phila.

His Excellency
M. B. Lamar

Sir

My ardent attachment to the interest of your Republic, and the solicitations of many of my friends has induced me to ask of your Excellency the appointment of Consul for this port. And should there be a law providing for the appointment of a Commissioner to take the acknowledgement of Deeds and other legal instruments to be used in Texas, that appointment also. Should there be no law or usage authorizing the appointment of a Commissioner, I assure your Excellency that such a law would operate greatly to the interest of your Government, inasmuch as it would offer facilities to the transfer of property in a manner known to be according to the laws of Texas, and recognized by that Government. In this opinion I am joined by many of the warmest friends of Texas in this City. you will herewith receive a letter from the Hon J. M. Pettit President judge of the District Court for the City of Philadelphia, and subscribed to by his two associate Judges Strong and Jones. One from the Hon R. G. Dunlap addressed to your Excellency, and three letters to Mr Dunlap, one other from the Hon Chas. Naylor a Representative in Congress from this district, the other from Merchants with which Mr D has requested me to forward you. I can only renew the assurance of my friends, that if appointed the utmost of my abilities shall be laved to discharge with fidelity the duties of the office, and promote the interest of your Government.

I have the honor to be
Your L. Sevt

G. A. Burgin
soliciting the
appointt of
Mr. McAllen
Consul-Port
of Phila

Philadelphia June 14th 1839

Dear Sir

Believing a Consul or Commercial Agent from your Government to this City would promote the interest of both, and learning that our fellow citizen Mr James McAllen would accept such an appointment we respectfully recommend him to the consideration of your Government as a man well qualified by his Probity of Character, experience in mercantile life and acquaintance with the Texians of your Country to fill the station faithfully and honorably. I would respectfully suggest the propriety of including the State of Delaware & West New Jersey as well as Pennsylvania in the Commission

with high regard
Your obt Servt
G. A. Burgin

R. G. Dunlap Acc
recommending Secy Treasury
Mr. Allen
as Consul
Portr. Phila.

Philadelphia June 15th 1839

Sir

I send you a recommendation of several highly respectable Citizens for Mr Allen to be the Consul. I have seen Mr Allen and am very pleased with him. He will certainly be a fine agent I prefer him to Mr Carr.

I am respectfully
Your obt Servt
R. G. Dunlap

E. Humphreys
proposition
for printing

Washington 17th June 1840

Sir

In answer to your note of yesterday I agree to print according to the terms of said note for first two hundred Fifty copies $38.19 for succeeding 250 copies $15.10 Sewing Stitching & folding &c 25¢ per 100 pages

E. Humphreys
Superintd Office

A. Grimes
reception of
Common
Laws &c

Montgomery June 15th 1840

Sir

I received on the 10th of last month a copy of Common Law, Decisions of the Ordinances & Decrees of the State of Coahuila & Texas, and the Commission for the justices of the peace of this County. It has been duly received at my office.

Very Respectfully &c
A. A. Grimes C.T.

R. G. Dunlap
relative to
Mad Locks
&c &c

Philadelphia June 15th 1839.

Sir

I send by Mr Lande who visits Texas with the determination to become a citizen, a model of a mad lock. Mr. Locke has the contract to make all the Mad Locks for the United States, and wishes a contract for Government of the same character in our state. If the Govt approve of the locks, the Post Master Genl will have to make the contract, or authorize me to do so. The mail arrangement which I have made with the Govt is into the extension of the United States system into our Republic, allowing our Post masters, the same commissions, that the Post Masters here, are allowed, taking the bond of Post master Genl instead of the bonds heretofore, for the payment of the money. The government pledges the implicit faith of the Republic. I send you two keys that you may see the variation of our locks from the United States mad locks without changing the principle. This lock is sent to the care of the State Department, with a pledge that it is not to be given out to any workman, so as to supersede the Patentee, you will see the force of the pledge without reflectation. I am prepared for time to do any thing here is calculated to learn something about.

Houston June 19th 1839

Sir,

In accordance with your orders of the 8th instant, I have visited Matagorda, for the purpose of making an examination of the Steamer Pouchartrain, & from the papers, &c; after a thorough, and minute examination of the Boat, papers, and circumstances, that brought her into that Port, I have the honor to report that, I found no unusual quantity of liquors, or ammunition on board; as the accompanying inventory, will attest. Her Register and other papers prove her to be the property of an American citizen named Campbell, a resident of New Orleans Louisiana. U. S. A. and commanded by one Arthur Hughes; her crew, as per shipping Articles, numbers, with a few exceptions, which you will perceive by reference to a copy of her list herewith enclosed.

I found the Boat in distress, she having burst four, out of six, of her boilers, which was the cause of her entering the port of Matagorda. After a careful investigation of all these facts, I came to the conclusion to release her, and accordingly left orders with the Collector, to permit her to depart from that Port at pleasure. A copy of which order please find enclosed. All of which is respectfully submitted.

To
Hon David G. Burnett
Acting Secretary of State
Republic of Texas

I have the honor respectfully
Your obt. Svt.
Wm. S. Brannan
Navy Agent

Translated from the French by N. Amory Esq. Sup.t
State Houston June 25 '39

To His Excellency

Sir Enclosed
Letter to the
Commr
Pochartrain

The undersigned French Consul to
the Texas to your Excellency, that I left New Orleans
the 16th of the present month on board the American
Steam boat Pouchartrain a passenger for Vera Cruz
the said boat being, for sail to the Federal party
on the 22nd inst. being in latitude 27° N and 94 West
longitude a Boiler burst doubtless through the
negligence of our Engineer who allowed the salt
water to remain therein 48 hours without cleaning
it out, the next day the 23rd another burst and the
24th a third, and as regards the remaining three (3)
they were rendered useless by the damage they had
sustained.

The crew having narrowly escaped death several times

and discouraged by 4 days of incessant fatigue and watching clamorously insisted upon the Captain directing the Boat for the first land finding myself in the latitude of Matamoros and that place in lands of the Centralists I preferred directing my course to Texas and ask its hospitality and succour rather than fall in the power of the Central party who were not ignorant of the fact that the steamboat was to be sold to the Federalists, and the presence of which at Tampico alone would prevent their attacking the place. I did not hesitate a moment to order the Captain to direct his course for Galveston which was immediately done, which reanimated the Crew and Passengers and they furnished their bed covering and clothes to make sails of which the Boat was deficient.

They we drifted at the mercy of winds and currents 4 days which would not admit of our reaching Galveston, but we were happily enabled to reach this Port where we are this day.

I say happily for in addition to the imminent danger to which our frail Bark was exposed not being constructed for the sea we found ourselves with half a pipe of water 280 miles from land which obliged us to submit to a very precaution allowance of water.

But alas our misfortunes were at once forgotten and disappeared at the sight of a Country whose motto is Philanthropy and Hospitality. And it is in the name of the sacred qualities and for which I have heard you are distinguished and from the sympathy existing between the Texians and federal party to which I have the honor to belong that I now ask the favor of your Excellency to order that in our misfortunes we may be respected and protected as well by the authorities as the citizens of this Country who I am told are desirous to capture us as a Mexicane Private which would ~~now~~ fail to inflict an impartial injury on the federal party to say nothing the injury which would accrue to those on board from such an act.

Nevertheless I must avow to your Excellency that my heart which seldom deceives me tells me a happy presentiment that my hopes will not be disappointed, and we shall have to congratulate ourselves upon your hospitality.

I embrace this opportunity with pleasure
eagerness to offer to your Excellency

To testimony of my entire high consideration and respect

Have the honor to be
Your
Signed
F. P. Pickard

To His Excellency the
President of Texas,
City of Austin, Texas
Exec Mansion

Austin June 16th 1839

Attributes acknowledgements of kind treatment &c &c

To the Hon Anson Jones
Actg Sec. of State

Sir

By the heavy Gales the Passengers Name have the great pleasure of receiving your much esteemed correspondence, of the 8th inst in which I have had the satisfaction to receive the assurances of friendship and good wishes from his Excellency the President, I need no request of you to witness my sincere & satisfactory, thanks to his Excellency for his attention and kindness by my late & a strange in this unfortunate period, and I have hence that I shall never cease to retain a grateful sense of his goodness & for generously he pleasure to accept, my greatest consideration and esteem

(Have the honor)
I Pickard

Copies of the letter left with the Collector of the Port of Galveston

Mr. T. Thomson) relative to the examination

Galveston June 16th 1839

Discovered to me on board the Steamer Independence of State stated from Br. Mexico on board Captain Thomas Carefully collected & preserved the Manuscript Mathematical papers the Surgeon was of opinion that the is the property of some gentleman (perhaps the Mexican) and has not an ~~[illegible]~~ secret Secretary of some or correspondence on board. You will therefore accept the same offers and receive to deliver them to their proper owner pleasure forwarding the strong consideration of your most humble & obedt servt

Very respectfully, your obedt servt
(Signed) Mrd Bracewell
Lt. U. S. Navy

9/a

M. B. Lamar appointing J. Webb Sec. State pro tem

Houston 20 June 1839

Hon James Webb,

Sir

During the temporary absence of Judge Burnet I request you will discharge the duties of Secretary of State. Very respectfully your obt servt

Mirabeau B. Lamar

E. H. Tarrant Resignation as Chf Justice

Clarksville May 20th 1839

To His Excellency M. B. Lamar President &c

Sir

I hold the commission of Chief Justice in and for the County of Red River bearing date the 29th of January 1839

and finding it out of my power and very inconvenient for me to attend to the duties of the office as they should be on account of the great distance that I reside from the seat of Justice and finding it necessary to pay more attention to my own private affairs I feel myself bound to tender my resignation to your Excellency [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] for the [illegible] of my native county. [illegible] that you will [illegible] this as my resignation to take effect on the 20th day next and appoint some other person to succeed me [illegible] will be better qualified. Your humble servant,

E. H. Tarrant

B. C. Franklin Resignation as 1st Dist Judge

Houston 21st June 1839

To the Honorable
David G. Burnet
Acting Secretary of State

Permit me to tender through you to the President of Texas my resignation of the office of District Judge in the 2nd Judl Dist

Very respectfully your obt servt

Benjamin C. Franklin

A. C. Horton Transmitting Deed from the Corporation of Bastrop

Matagorda June 26th 1839

To the Hon David G. Burnet
Act Secy of State

Hon Sir

Herewith I transmit to you a deed from the Corporation of Bastrop to the Government of League of Land which I overlooked in making out as chairman of the Committee. Approved

74 to locate the seat of government [illegible]
your obedient [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]

Robert Stone(?)
Relative to
Power concerning Cherokee
& other
Indians

[illegible]

Mr B. Lamar
Relative to
the property
of Cherokee
Indians
&c –

[illegible]

[illegible] communications [illegible] you [illegible] with your reports to them [illegible]

Mirabeau B Lamar

By the President – A. S. Webb Acting Secty of State

A. R. Johnson
Relative to the
Organization of
Shelby Co.

Shelby Hill Clark county
June 1st 1857

Sir

I wish me to call your attention to a fact of importance in which many citizens among us especially north of the Albion and much interested. You were aware of an act passed at the last session of Congress establishing the County of Harrison see page 159 of vols passed 1st session of said Congress. The organizations of said County have not yet taken place in accordance with the intent & meaning of said Act, there has no Chief Justice attended to yet, and such being the case the citizens of said County are likely not to get the benefit of a representative as by said Act is their right and ~~xxxxx~~ privilege. Please write and inform me what is being done in relation to the organization of said County and the manner or mode in which the County is to avail itself of an election of Representative to which it is by the act entitled.

Hoping you in relation to this matter in accordance with the wishes & belief of many citizens in said County of Harrison

Yours respectfully
Alex R. Johnson

J. A. Starr
Relative to
Duplicate
Drafts on
N. Orleans

Treasury Department
Washington City D.C. March 6th 1857

Sir Your (no date)
Having been of Office

Herewith have you a draft in duplicate (in different) drawn on the Merchants Bank at New Orleans for twenty thousand three hundred and fifty five dollars & fifty cents in your favor in accordance with your request in your communication to this department of this date.

With great respect
I am
Your Obedient Serv.
Wm M. Meredith
Secretary of the Treasury

J. M. Hansford
Relative to the
Organization
of Harrison
County

Fort Atkinson Jan 7th 1857

Sir, The citizens of this Territory in Lincoln Co. desirous of having the benefit of their separate representative in the new County of Harrison have proceeded to organize and authorized the election and organization. Therefore they have a separate representative. Left with you the [illegible] of Thomas Simmons before I left the City of Washington. Choice of the people of Harrison for their [illegible]

The Commissioner now showing his instructions has induced me to modify my opinion, the establishment of the most respectable of the Citizens seem desirous to have the Texas independent & prefer a modified union rather than to risk the consequences that establishment would produce as. It is perfectly in vain to search for evidence to indicate disaffection towards the union or much animosity and rancor, because the treaties among mankind are seldom recorded. Nations steps before the mistake of disappointed. It is to know exactly what the Commissioner Pedro Fonseca, is in, by this flagrant act, I am inclined to see the existence of designing and dissatisfied citizens under that cover of those he seeks by a mistake be concealed.

As this is a private letter I will neither express an opinion in relation to this subject which I think of vital importance to Texas and to our administration etc. you will serve me exceedingly by keeping it secret.

Respectfully
John H. Cocke

Secretary of State
Washington City
D. C.

Washington Texas
Nov 17th 1837

P. Captain
Relative to
draft on
Merchants
Bank N. O.
in favor
of Mess
Labranche
&c

Sir

Adverting to our President's letter of the 14th inst. to the President, Congress, a copy of which is herein enclosed, I have now to inform you, the receipt of your favor of the 6th inst advising the draft of your Government on the Office Mess Labranche for the sum of $[illegible], for the account of a deficit of Red Notes of the Texian Mint, which I have duly honored accordingly. In lieu thereof to your credit, I have (consignment) a number of the red notes of the bank of the United States which I have taken to the amount of $[illegible] which I have deposited subject to your order.

Relative to your previous notes from Corpus Christi, I am sorry to inform you that the Texian Government is balance of $[illegible] under liquidation on behalf of the official report and subject to the orders of your Government one hundred and fifty nine thousand dollars of red notes of the bank of the United States.

Mr. Besalt relative to the $200,000 deposited in the Merchants Bank &c ---

Have the Honor to be
Respectfully your obdt Servt—
Robert Copland
Cashier.

To His Excellency
M. B. Lamar,
President of the Republic of Texas. — Houston, 19th Bank N. Orleans July

Sir

Our Minister has forwarded to this Bank for sale in the usual Packets of the Treasury of the United States, to be held subject to the written order of your Excellency or of the Secretary of State the Treasury of the Republic — Proceeds to the receipts of these Post-Notes. The drafts of the Republic signed yourself and the Secretary of the Treasury, dated June 29th in favor of Thomas Reily Esq. for $25,000 & $100 together $25,100 were presented, upon the very urgent representations of Mr Reily and McBarnard & Co. of the necessity of paying the Drafts, we have determined to appropriate 25,100 Dollars of the Post-Notes to this purpose and have accordingly discounted same Packets dated July 1 Ins. $25,000 receive $19 on Sat. thence 9th July to maturity of Post Notes

Cash received $25,021
Less 20

with which we have paid the drafts for income to credit of the Republic which of course reduces the amount of Post Notes now in our possession subject to your order to $172,100 trusting this arrangement will meet your direction &c

(Signed)
Robert Copland

D.P. Cort — Resignation as Chf Justice

Liberty July 13th 1839

To the
Hon Secretary of State,
Houston

Sir

Finding it for my interest to resign my office of Chief Justice of the County of Liberty, you will please accept this as my resignation and notify me of its acceptance by return mail. It is desirable that some person should be appointed to fill the office as soon as possible from the nature of the public business to be done.

Very Respectfully Your obedient Servt
David P. Cort

Philadelphia, this [illegible] 16th 1839.

Acknowledgment of acceptance of the appointment of Consul, Port of Phila.

The Hon. Abel P. Upshur
&c &c &c

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the notification, which I have received of your instructions upon the subject of the appointment of Consul for this port, and to express my sense of the honor done me, in the selection made of those instructions.

Should I see no reason to doubt the propriety of the appointment, and be able to perform the duties of the office, I will be prepared to discharge the duties of the office.

I have hereunto added that these expressions are in perfect accordance with my feelings, and I am ready for the business of obtaining the information desired. Whenever I may be wanting, I will be ready.

On its completion I will forward a full report with the documents of statistic information, or to do so if it be satisfactory, or else give the reasons why.

With sentiments of high respect I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

[illegible]

Abel P. Upshur

Acknowledgment of declining the appointment of Dist. Judge, Va. & N. Dist.

Philadelphia, this [illegible] day of [illegible]

The Hon. Abel P. Upshur
&c &c &c

The consideration of your offer of the office of District Judge for the Virginia District, which I have received, I feel it would not be becoming in me, at the present, to decline it, without giving you the reasons which induce me to decline the office, and to request the indulgence of the President.

Being, from my age, the nature of my mental and bodily constitution, and the habits of my life, not adapted to the duties of the office, I feel that I should be doing injustice to the public, and to myself, if I should accept the office.

With the feelings, and the sentiments of respect, of the honorable [illegible]

Abel P. Upshur
Sec. of State

[illegible]

Mr Farley resignation as Chief Justice

Milam Co. 24th July 1839.

To the
Hon. the Secretary of State
Sir

I regret exceedingly to remove from this County of Milam. I therefore transmit your letter to His Excellency the President notwithstanding his resignation as Chief Justice of the County. I am sir

With consideration of the
Highest Respect
Your
Obedient Servant

S. A. Plummer relative to Genl Houston wanting information generally—

S. A. Plummer. 24th July 1839.

Dear Sir

Not hearing, I presume, to hear as duly and satisfactorily communicated with your school, or other news, thing in general about the country affairs, Mexico—"meaning, the Country" with the sword" &c — but is fearful it would seem too much like intrusion to introduce the subject himself — so knowing it could do no harm to know all he has to say, I take this opportunity of telling you how his desires to talk freely on that subject — So if you wish to know his views you can introduce the subject some day. For myself I know no other Mexican contemplates in the least an invasion. But that she will soon commence harassing our frontier by small bodies of Cavalry and instigating the Indians to commit depredations, I have no doubt, and that a more serious war may be prevented that. How to take all their roaming parties and to the Vice President is a matter that you may the Secretary of War must decide

I write another letter to this Post

Yr for truly
Sam Houston

J. C. Clariage transmitting Bond on Merchants Bank N.O.

Department of State
City of Washington 24th July 1839

Sir

I am instructed by the Secretary of the Treasury to transmit to you the inclosed papers, on the subject of the Bond of the Merchants Bank of New Orleans, for the purpose of enabling the Attorney to communicate with the Department, upon the receipt of the instructions

I have the honor to be
very respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
Joseph C. Clay
Chief Clk

Hon. Mahlon Dickerson
Acting Sec. of State

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt by me this day of the following documents sent to me from your Department, viz. a Commission directed to me to fill the office of Chief Justice of this Country. I have received it very, subject to results & for which I cannot abstain from expressing my deep sense of the honour done me by the Government.

The other documents are the Commissions for Justices of the Peace, Copies of the Journal of the General Council, & one of the Proclamation containing an order for the Election of Senators & Representatives to which due attention will be paid.

Since this I have had the very honour to receive the notice of the proceedings of the Council, & have accordingly obtained the Certificate of the Citizens, two thirds of the Citizens of this City & have accordingly this day sent in the Nominations to the National Council with the Council to confirm the National Measures of the Government.

I have the Honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient
Humble Servant
[illegible]

To Rd Ord
The Secretary of State

Rd C. Allen
transmitting the
oath of Dist. Court
Nevis -

Governor to the Secretary of State
Transmitting the oath of the Chief Justice of the Island of Nevis
Enclosures
Rec. [illegible]
Answered
[illegible]

J. H. Starr -
relative to $25.000
in the case of
J. Riley et
Nacogdoches.

Treasury Department
Washington City Oct. 1st 1839.

The Secretary of the Treasury
To
His Excellency
Mirabeau B. Lamar
President &c &c

In the object for which the sum of $25000 from the Revenue of Texas was recently transmitted to Nacogdoches under charge of Thomas Riley, has been accomplished by other means, upon representation to the President, by His Excellency the President, to authorize you to receive such provision for the safe keeping of the money, as in your judgment may be deemed adequate; whether it be to secure it in safe chests or of Nacogdoches as deed of trust or a suitable bond to this place or elsewhere.

I request you suggest that as the circumstances under which the money was lost, the bond must be safely secured with proper security, perhaps it would be the best policy to retain the money of Nacogdoches under proper restrictions until such bond, and can be forwarded to the custody, at this Department you will advise me. Your obedient

Servant

Asa Hutchins
Acting Sec. of the Treasury

C. Lockhart -
Relative to
Surveying
School Land -

Austin City Oct. 1st 1839

I am just received your communication of the 29th ult. in which you inform me that the lands are surveyed for the use and benefit of Education, and in reply to inform you that the lands are much scattered and in this county are all timber. There are some large bodies of land in this county that are fine timber at the rate of 2 dollars per acre, and can be at his disposal on the terms. I am of the opinion that if the lands were sold in small tracts it would be of more benefit to the country. I have the honor to be if you please, give an opinion on this subject, immediately. I will be happy to render you all in my power. I find very little in this country yet, (but as numbers are now settling in) prime beef & chickens, etc. (and) hence I will upon come to information on the above business. Yours

Charles Lockhart
County Clerk
for Gonzales

Nacogdoches, August 6th 1839

Hon. D. G. Burnet
Acting Secretary [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Sir

[illegible] this morning from the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Justice [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

duly [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

until [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

your will [illegible]

[illegible]

Aug. 11th [illegible] [illegible]

J. H. Slaw[illegible]
Relation to the
Columbia
taking Texas
money at par

August 2[illegible] 1839

Hon. [illegible]

Sir

[illegible] Bucker [illegible] will enable [illegible] a [illegible] on [illegible] funds, [illegible] the [illegible] a [illegible] to buy [illegible] price and [illegible] there [illegible] without a [illegible] be [illegible] attachment to the country.

[illegible] the [illegible] respecting the [illegible] are [illegible] opinion [illegible] [illegible] notes [illegible] according to the persons from whom they are received [illegible] the difference in value between the two kinds of money and the [illegible] thus [illegible] would be so small as to have no [illegible] influence upon the [illegible] of our notes, taking the [illegible] [illegible] in this [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] our [illegible] of [illegible] then [illegible] the [illegible] with the Columbia would have the same result.

[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

Wm. L. Hunter
Resignation as
Chf Justice

[illegible] August [illegible] 1839

[illegible] Office of Chief Justice [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Wm. L. Hunter

[illegible]

[illegible]

H. Millard
Revocation
of his
Resignation
as Chf Justice

[illegible] August 29th 1839.

My dear Sir

I wrote to you by mail a day or two since [illegible] that if my resignation had not been acted upon I [illegible] [illegible] you to withdraw it — my reason for so doing [illegible] that [illegible] I find so much dissatisfaction on account of my resigning and the solicitation of all [illegible] citizens that I [illegible] since my return that [illegible] since I have considered to do so for a year at least — if not too [illegible] [illegible] been made [illegible]

Desire me to tell the Office that I shall return on Saturday if in the mean of the religious of Rejection (?) that should be at Sidney another this evening that if I make much more delay the Steamer may leave me behind

Sincerely Yours

Henry Milnor

A. Reid
Citing the Appointment of Notary Public

Philadelphia Nov 10th

To His Excellency H. Pickens
Gov &c

The bearer Mr Reid has been recommended to me as a person of respectability who is desirous of obtaining the office of Notary Public in the City of Philadelphia, which I believe he would fill with credit to himself and your Excellency.

He is now engaged in the practice of this place at present in Great business, which is likely to shortly be claiming to urge the ~~[illegible]~~ rare when some the good Governor of the office of Notary being one of the Citizens and Attorney Genl. I do the same &c &c &c

With respect and Esteem &c
Your most humble Servant
Henry H. Reed

G.W. Ward
Transmitting J. Joy Bond as Consul at Phila

Harrisburg Dec. 9th 1851

To the Hon Secretary of State
Sir

Please the bearer to transmit herewith the bond of Joseph Joy Esqr, as Consular for the City of Philadelphia the name of witnesses is known to your Honor and the reference to the then Secy of the Navy C.C. &c. The Hon Atty Genl and Mr Pleasants the Mayor is regarded to respect, will have delivered, please see with respect

Your Obt Servt
G.W. Ward

A. Starr
Chief Clerk
Stephen
Secy of State

Treasury Department
Washington Aug 31st 1839

To the Hon. L.W. Bennett
Acting Secretary of State.
Sir,

We have received herewith the Deficiency or copy of the estimates, made during the last Session of Congress, of the civil expenses of the Govt for the current year, which constitutes the basis of the appropriation of Three Thousand and Eleven Thousand

thousand dollars for that object.

With great respect I have the honor to be your obt. Servt.

Wm. Ashley
Secretary of Iowa

W. L. Ferris — Relative to surveying school land.

Dubuque Sept. 10th 1839

(Sir.)

I have the pleasure to inform you that notwithstanding the unflattering prospects of hostilities the difficulties in this County will immediately fulfil your instructions through me in relation to lands appropriated to purposes of education, I have apportioned the quantity among them proportionate to their different districts within township to locate the small quantities in different taken up throughout these ~~taken~~ districts so as to be equally beneficial to every portion of the community, presuming that schools must be another object there.

I am still persuaded that the difficulties arising in settling the boundary line are greatly in an unfavorable character indeed whenever the difficulties is there, as great as the prejudices in Wisconsin, I take leave to refer you to my last report.

I remain sir with the utmost of the highest respect Your Obedient servant.

W. L. Ferris
County Surveyor
Dubuque County

Hon. C. Gunn
Sec. Iowa
City of Iowa Iowa

J. G. Wright. Relative to the boundary line. U.S. & Texas

Charlotte Sept. 14th 1839

To the Hon. Mark Leonard

Sir

Your of the 28th ult. was at hand and its contents are received with great pleasure by all who have been at first in it was with great reluctance that I have the honor of the commissioner, to which you have alluded, and the stress to justify. Now consider myself now that consequently by having it in my power to have to know that the decisive course adopted recently by the President in relation to the line (as pressed by you and previously by Capt. Stump) has given general satisfaction to the people of Illinois. Indeed should the line be completed as contemplated I have no doubt that it

will continue to share that confidence and extend (of the people in this section of country) which was so plainly demonstrated on the day of the Presidential Election.

I have the pleasure to be your
Most obt. Servt.

A. C. Wright
Cch. & Comm
Hd Count

H. Ward
relative to
Cyrus Jay's
Bond as
Consul=

Matagorda 24th Sept. 1839

To the Hon. Secretary of State
Republic of Texas
Sir

I had the honor to enclose to the Department of State the Bond of C. Jay Esqr as Consul for this Port at the Port of Philadelphia about the 13th of August. Will you have the goodness sir to inform me whether the said Bond has been received and whether the securities were considered sufficient. The uncertainty of our mail matter has caused and answer as soon as it shall have been received at the Capital take the necessary steps to have a new bond supplied.

I am very respy.
Your Obt. Servt.
C. Mechard

Humphreys
relative to
printing the
Laws of Texas
in Spanish

Legation Office
Sept. 19th 1839

Sir

[illegible]

J. S. Lyons
Relative to
taking Mexican
traders ----
stealing
cattle &c

Victoria Sept. 21st 1839.

To His Excellency the President of
the Republic of Texas
Sir,

I take the liberty to trespass on your time with nothing but my respects for so doing will please my excuse. The Chief, Christian, Leland Delegis and of this Country are in the habits of chasing the Mexican traders who prevents them selves with their hundreds one dollars, gives each one of their company upon not aware that the laws of our Country, gives them any such rights the last Executive gave a proclamation, gave this privilege but the last Congress had some actions on the frontier trade I do not know of your having continued this practice: this being one of the many embarrassments to the Rio Grande trade I think it my duty to communicate this to your Excellency in addition that the frontier is at this time for some time been infested with robbers is usually called cows drivers and all kinds of robbery is committed daily no persons property is safe in these countries we are obliged to suffer along with the balance of the best disposed citizens, we are loosing our little stock constantly this comes chiefly on those parts that cost all in the interior of 30, for we have to buy at high prices on our returns it is true that stock can be bought from 8 to 10 dollars per head in Texas paper but persons being employed to buy that which I know to be stolen & after wards brands that I know as well as I do my own. We are at this time in a very bad state for all laws are trampled under foot, and those who pay any respect to the laws of the land or has any sentiment honor is hooted and in truth his life is not safe if he offers any resistance to the actions of the villains that now rule, there is no doubt that you have heard the bad treatment go on at present but no person knowing concerning it unless an eye witness, the citizens of this country have the honor of being represented this Congress by a man who Respects the Head quarters for your dishonor & by this means to the disgrace of our country. If the above will serve to aid your Excellency in any way for the common good I will feel amply paid. Hoping this may find your Excellency in as good health as I could wish is of from

Your very humble Servant

John S. Lyons

Relative to surveying and lands.

Houston & Galveston City, Texas
Oct. 31st 1839

Colonel M. B. Lamar.

Dear Sir,

Your communication, relating to those Flat Tracts of Land surveyed in this County, which for lack of interest came late to hand, I have not yet been able to comply with your order in consequence of its being unsafe for surveyors to go out of the settlements at this time. I am confident, however, able to make satisfactory surveys on the 1st day about Sixteen of this County, located with the exception of the River tracts, I will attend to those surveys as early as practicable, please inform me whether or not I shall be in time if those surveys as it could be located and much more valuable lands in selecting.

Have the honor to be

Your most obedient

Humble servant

G. H.

A. G. Sonnell
Designation as Chf Justice.

Houston & Galveston City,
Oct 5th 1839.

Colonel Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas

Have with honor acquit. this an appointment of the Office of Chief Justice of this County, will report the same that my discretion may be exercised as the case directs.

Therefore, I am to recommend our fellow Citizen Joseph Mechling to fill the office of Chief Justice for Galveston County, Texas.

Respectfully your obt. st.

J. Mechling

Lord relative to lacks as do ...k notice ...s to

On board steamer Orleans
for New Orleans Oct. 9 1839

His Excellency A. G. Sonnell
Respected Sir.

Previously to my leaving Houston on my exploring tour I thought it my duty to call on you, upon my return. In relation to the small tracts of which you then spoke, although I anticipated upon my return to Houston a few days since I found that you had left the City yet as the circumstances making it necessary that I should immediately return to Texas previously to my coming out again this fall precludes my

my writing Notice at the present moment. May I trouble you so far as to see the Postmaster Genl. upon the subject to ascertain the number of Cents of the kind which his Lordship would wish be contract for. Inclose the number of extra high, whence cost the manufacture of prices about cent. and the smaller size extra high costs be of fourteen at 25 Cents and the larger sizes 30 cents. and the Cost of three hundred and fifty of smaller size with high at two dollars and the larger size at $2,25 each

You may recollect also my showing you a pattern of Bank Note Paper in which the manner of the introduction in Water Marks is made, in the paper thereby rendering forgeries, counterfeiting. You were as well as every other Gentleman that has seen it very much pleased with it and your impressions were that if the Government would give any encouragement to Bank Note they would in all probability adopt this Kind. May I ask you to bear it in mind and possibly you might procure me an order for a quantity the price is $60 for ten thousand sheets and you can have "Franklin of Alfred" or any other name inserted. If the amount is also inserted sixty five thousand dollars per thousand by this latter procedure, not merely to prevent counterfeiting but alterations of Bank. would be prevented. As the order would have to be sent to Europe the sooner it is given the better. Wherein your office and inquiry was made of me if I could procure Water-Proof Mail bags. I have no doubt but I can do so, and I would suggest that if they were covered with a Chain Matting. It would not only protect the from water, but prevent the knife after depredation.

If any of the Departments are in want of Blank Books or Stationary, remaining I may say, I may be the foundation head for the manufacture of such articles. I probably could procure them on advantageous terms.

Trusting you will excuse the liberty taken and that you will favor me with a reply addressed Noble Lord Ashburton at your Earliest Convenient Making Consequences. I remain with sentiments

much respect yours truly

John Lands

Hon. E. H. Ewing
Secretary of State

Houston October 11. 1839

Winfield
Now to
Pointing
Assessors in
ion of the
ent to be
of Chief Justices

Sir

In consequence of the death of the
Chief Justice of the County without a timely su-
perintendence the Municipal affairs of our County Materially fail will observe by the accompanying
the act of last Congress that it is made the duty
of the Chief Justice of the County in Conformity with the
requisitions to commence on the first Monday of October in
each year and appoint Assessors, Collectors, Officers
for the County, the duty was also Chief Justice was
unfortunately dead and unable to attend, as there is
no provision made in the act of for death Resignation
Therefore I stand fail myself authorized
to appoint those officers in my capacity Accordingly
those you will be pleased, give the matter your early
attention as our County is yet unorganized to be
a Year days

Please the Honor to receive the respect
Your obedient Servant
E. H. Linfield,
Associate Justice
County Nacogdoches

P.S.
The names of Col. Gray
& Capt. Buckner are shown
for Chief Justice
E.H.L.

R. R. Royal
Praying for Letters Sir,
Copies of the
laws &c

San Felipe 22nd Nov. 1839

When in your place I wished some copies from your
office but the office not being open could not obtain them.
The first place send by mail a copy of the Laws or Order of the last
Council of Council of which I was the presiding officer previous to the
Texas---consisting of a Governor Governor of the Commonwealth passed
on the 20th of October 1836. Giving the Civil Offices and
in which Sam Houston, S. F. Austin or C. S. Mary were or the
where this will be found I forwarded in a Book made
of Stout Cap paper Containing one quire or 24 commen-
cing with the date of 8th Oct. 1835 and ought to be with
the proceeding of the Convention for 1st of April
Also please send a copy of the Resolutions of the Con-
stitution, laws, forms its Government which I presumed
day of its session in which my report as President of the
Council is filed and on motions of Genl. Houston
is approved please send by private mail to me

at Malaga and it is important that they should be heard as soon as possible in order to be used in our District Courts as evidence in a pending case

Permit me to be respectfully

J. R. Rogers

E. Rains
Resignation as Senator

Shelbyville 27th of Oct. 1839

Hon. Davis G. Burnett
Acting Secty of State

Sir

I tender you, Sir, my resignation as Senator of the Counties of Shelby, Sabine & Harrison. I sincerely regret that circumstances growing out of my private affairs should compel me to tender my resignation at this late hour, leave among my colleagues during the approaching session if any situation would justify it, at least I hope no evil can arise to the public from my absence, if I was aware of any urgent, public necessity, for the speedy and full organization of the Senate, I should be willing to sacrifice any and every thing for the public weal, as that is not the case I have chose to surrender my trust to others hands, and mingle with my family and kindred, my friends

I have the honor to be with the highest esteem Your friend & Obt Serv

Emory Rains

J. H. Starr
relative to Civil & Contingent expenses of Govt

Treasury Department
Austin Oct 28th 1839

To A. Emory Esqr
State Department

Sir—

I have to request through your department an estimate of the probable Civil and Contingent expenses of Government for the Year 1840

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servt—

Geo. W. Starr
Secretary of Treas

A. Navarro
Resignation of his Office
as a Member
of Congress

New Orleans 6th Oct. 1839

To the President of the U. S.

Yesterday was the day appointed by the Constitution
for the Members of Congress to assemble at the Seat
of Government, but I am sorry to inform you that
many Members will fail in one of my Legislative as
well as other duties which I have suffered for several years
so that on the present occasion it will be altogether
impossible for me to accelerate the persons to the Seat of
Government, therefore being desirous that the Country
of Texas should not be neglected the proper Legislative
Duties in my absence I am obliged to my duty to
resign, and I do hereby resign the year Expectancy
of my seat in Congress from this date to the Seat
which determination, I have to give the
Government

With sentiments of the greatest respect
I have the honor to be your obedient servant

A. Navarro

C. Van Ness
relative to his Election

New Orleans, 8th Nov. 1839

Congressional

Sir, I do myself the honor to inform you that I am elected for this Parish
Election of this County, in exchange to oblige you of the resignation of Mr.
Navarro one of the members elect from this County, who was
accosted of illness this day, considered to have that right. Un-
fortunately, that circumstance, he had not the County, should pass or
interest the expectance of a certain Government, tender has induced
me to send this notification by express the order stated by the
regulation. Letters and opportunity may be had for
holding the elections in time for all to be present
on the opening of Congress. There is but one, incorrect
out of the letters and should the order arrive here
on Thursday (and the carrier if employed without
delay can be here on that day with ease) there
will be just time for notice to be given for Saturday
I beg leave therefore to request that some inter with
a strong expedition as possible transmit the order
for new elections to the State on Saturday the eighteen
Thus the means to be with the highest
respect your obed. servt.

C. Van Ness

J. Dinsmore
relative to the
schooner
Robert Carter

Republic of Texas, County of
Matagorda

Personally appeared before me, the Chief Justice in and for the County of Matagorda and State of Texas, Joseph Chapman, who being duly sworn, states that the vessel called the Robert Carter belonging to the citizens of this County, and supposed to have been captured by the Indians, is detained by the Comptroller of this County, under pretence that the said vessel was lying in the bay of Matagorda and in great danger of being lost in case of storm. That the said vessel is detained for fourteen days, according to the high seas and regards the rights of the Republic of Texas that although this affair does not admit that any process of action or offence has been committed yet if any it has been, it can be taken cognizance of by the civil tribunals of the country. Therefore the said Chapman requests that the said vessel be released and that the said Comptroller be ordered to pay the same according to the laws and usages of the Republic and therefore wishes a speedy restitution by the Comptroller, his Excellency, Mirabeau B. Lamar, according to law and to be compensated upon the ground that the said vessel was detained and to prevent the loss of vessels by detaining them in the bay of Matagorda, and to pay the said schooner an indemnification for the damages sustained.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8th day of Nov. 1839

Joseph Chapman

Chief Justice

The foregoing statement of the plaintiff is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. Given under my hand and seal of the Court this 8th day of Nov. 1839

Joseph Chapman

Chief Justice

Texas Executive,

J. Shipard
relative to
the Schooner
Ro. Carter

Mirabeau B. Lamar,

Secretary of the Republic of Texas,

The memorialists of the schooner Robert Carter respectfully represent to your Excellency that he is a stranger in this country and that he has heard from persons of charge of the Texas Navy that it is not necessary for him to sue for his vessel on this schooner there is no objection, being other vessels in the Republic.

Respectfully

Joseph Shepard

Master of Schooner

Robert Carter.

24

Johnson
Resignation as
Chief Justice

Liberty Nov. 8th 1839

Secretary of State
Repb. of Texas

Sir. I hereby tender my resignation of the Office of Chief Justice of the County of Liberty and trust the same may be conferred upon some deserving citizen whose domestic arrangements will not suffer by attending to its duties, which alone has induced me to resign said office.

With sentiments of esteem I am
Your Obt. Servt
Saml. L. B. Johnson

E.H. Cullen
Resignation as
Dist. Judge.

Austin 18th. Nov. 1839.

Hon. David G. Burnet,
Acting Secretary of State
Sir,

It is meet the action of Congress to Elect Judges of the District Courts accordingly appointments having been made during the recess of Congress. I therefore elect a person to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the Hon. Langston as early as practicable and as I shall not be a candidate for that office I take this early opportunity of tendering my resignation

I have the honor to be
Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
E. H. Cullen

H. Smyth
relative to
Mobile City
Hospital a/c
against
Texas---

Consulate of Texas
Mobile Ala. 20th. Nov. 1839

Hon. Secty. of State
of the Republic of Texas
Sir

Inclosed I have the honor to transmit an account of the City of Mobile against the Republic of Texas for medical attendance afforded at the City Hospital to some Brazos citizens and Mexicans of the Republic, who were at this place the past summer destitute and sick and whom the Magistrate kindly permitted to be placed in the Hospital. Having no funds I should have necessarily obliged to forward the account for your consideration

With the highest respect I have the
Hon. Sec. Servt
Stephen Smyth

Cyrus Foy
Reception of
Exequatur as Mexican Consul for
Port Phila

Texian Consulate Office Philadelphia
Nov 28th 1839

Hon Daniel G. Burnett
Acting Secretary of State
&c &c &c Washington City

Sir,

I have the honor to inform the Department of State that I received a letter from Col. Hart Equire Port Master of Matagorda, bearing date of the 31st of August last; in which he informs me that he had filled my Consulary bond with such securities as he thought would be probably satisfactory, and had transmitted it by mail, to the Department of State at Houston.

On the receipt of this information I addressed my communication to Gen. R. M. Burnet Texian Minister near the Government of the United States at Washington, for the purpose of obtaining the President's Exequatur. My communication together with exequatur of the President of the United States bearing date October the 29th Eighteen hundred and (39) thirty nine, I have recently received from Gen. Dunlap; and having received no notice from the Department of State that the bond was insufficient or unsatisfactory, I take it for granted that it is satisfactory, and therefore have entered on the duties of said office, taking from the Presidential Exequatur of the twenty ninth of October last.

From that time I shall make my returns to the proper Department according to instructions received. In compliance with such instructions, I have transmitted notice of from date received to the Minister of the Republic of Texas at Washington, also to the Texian Consul at New York, and to Gen. O'Higgins.

With sentiments of respect, I have the honor to be, Your Obt Svt

Cyrus Foy.

C. Foy
Relative to
obtaining Mr Henry Ewin G. Burnett
time of donating Acting Secretary of State
land to emigrants for the Republic of Texas

Sir

The bearing over the transmitted instructions transmitted to me by the Department of State I perceive that such information from the respective Consuls of the Republic of Texas, is invited, as may be deemed of right to the Republic. I therefore take the liberty to suggest to the Government the propriety of calling the attention of Congress to the subject of further

the 9th of [illegible] only [illegible] Canton [illegible],
Texas [illegible] (since the [illegible] of the present year) [illegible] can not long like such measures [illegible] its [illegible] are [illegible]

These engagements are founded on the [illegible] with the [illegible] families here, and in the country, who are [illegible] of [illegible], to [illegible] and take with more [illegible] in the [illegible], provided they can obtain lands from the Government on such terms as may [illegible]. Should these persons find it unprofitable to [illegible], consequences are [illegible] before the Expedition of the present year. The prejudices which have hitherto existed against Texas, are fast wearing away, and a spirit for Emigrating to that country is being awakened, particularly among the German population. Both the Germans and the Native Americans have recently held meetings in this City, relative to this subject, at one of which I had the honor of addressing the people. Could they be assured that lands would be given them, as heretofore, during the coming year, I have no doubt there would be a strong tide of Emigration in the spring and summer setting into Texas.

Impressed with these sentiments I have presumed to communicate them to the Department of State and hope in so doing I shall not be considered impertinent.

With sentiments of high respect & Esteem
I have the honor to be Sir your obt. Servt

(Cyrus Joy)

Wm. Scurlock
relative to the impressment of Bacon by Texas Militia — [illegible]

Austin 30th Jan. 184[illegible]

Hon. David G. Burnet,

Sir, Having understood that the Hon. Chargé d'Affaires of the United States near the Govt. of Texas has a claim against the Govt. for [illegible] which is charged [illegible] for [illegible] pounds of inferior bacon taken by the Quartermaster of the fourth Brigade Texas Militia. Having been myself engaged in the sale of Bacon during the same season previous to said impressment I can venture to say with certainty that at no time of the commencement of said season in our town, the highest price for which any was sold in the neighborhood of said bacon being in very small quantities did not exceed [illegible] per pound, the Bacon taken by our Quartermaster was a very inferior article consisting of about [illegible] thousand [illegible].

Very Respectfully your Obt Servt
Wm. Scurlock.

W. W. Williams
relative to the
imprisonment of
Bacon by
Militia —

Austin Dec. 21st 1839.

[illegible] in the capacity of [illegible] of the 1st Brigade at the time the lot of Bacon ([illegible]) was seized by order of the President of the Texian [illegible] citizens of Red River County, was taken for the use of the 1st Brigade, and it was always my understanding that His Excellency, informed Maj. Genl. the Pr. Hughes that the people [illegible] the Bacon. I am quite confident that my opinion respecting the Bacon would not have been altered. I received this information from Instructions given to me when commanded forthwith to find out the disposition of the 1st Regiment. I am fearful lest this was not sufficient for your use, which I regret, not having been on hand through the remainder until December before last.

Respectfully yours

William W. Williams

D. Rowlett
relative to
the imprisonment
of Bacon, Green
Lee & Co.

Office Adjutant General's
Texas Expressed Communication
Williams therewith enclosed
prior to and which evidence that the Mahogoneys were therein are
[illegible] been [illegible] in the expiring [illegible], at the time
[illegible] of the Sheriff's attendance to the Communication
were [illegible] by [illegible] that the [illegible] of the lot Bacon in
question [illegible] in the [illegible] of the Texas at said before
the time of [illegible] of Communication, by Green Lee & Co.
to [illegible] was [illegible] that [illegible] for [illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible] or [illegible] in which Bacon
was taken

Very Respectfully
D. Rowlett

A. N. Amos
acceptance of
the appointment of
Post Master
Genl

City of Austin Jan. 15th 1840.

[illegible] to acknowledge that
[illegible] the last mail of this Month Received
[illegible] the 15th Instant.

[illegible] to the Post
Master General and
[illegible] the [illegible] are very only [illegible]
of [illegible] the Office with the greatest [illegible]
[illegible] assured that it will be Effected [illegible]

The deranged condition of the Post Office Department but as I am not certain that my abilities are such as to merit this ~~to~~ very distinguished office attainable I can only promise that every effort will be made to render effective. I very much regret that it was not in my power to have left Cincinnati for this city earlier than was done but as the establishment I have been unexpected and my business of a too much importance to be neglected this delay has been unavoidable.

As soon as my commission is received I will be ready to commence the duties of Post-Master General.

Yours very respectfully
Your obt. Svt.

John Miller Speigt

Rowlett — Austin 9th January 1840
Statement to Mr. — Hon. Abel P. Upshur
Cherokee — Policy, Secretary of State
Indians — of the Republic of Texas
Shooting — B. Rowlett for himself and as agent
Horses &c — for others humbly petitioning unto the honorable congress
that he was robbed on the 1st day of June 1839 by a band of
Indians living a short distance above Fort Gaston in the
State of North Carolina the following property viz. the
Number of Horses in the Republic the following property
viz.

One horse the property of B. Rowlett worth $ 350,00
One horse the property of J. Shepherd worth " 150,00
One mare belonging to M. G. Connelly worth " 150,00
One mare the property of John Anderson worth " 200,00
One mare the property of George Duncan worth " 150,00
Two mares and one colt the property of Geo. Duncan worth 400,00
One horse the property of W. G. Moore worth 150,00
Two mares the property of John & Nelson Moore " 200,00
1500,00

Then he [illegible] to the Indians [illegible] the property [illegible] and [illegible] to the Indians [illegible] to the [illegible] and the [illegible] of the Army [illegible] to the [illegible] to the [illegible] relative to their [illegible] and where no [illegible] [illegible] within a [illegible] [illegible] of Fort Gaston in the United States where no [illegible] have [illegible]

Your petitioners [illegible] the Indians [illegible] of the [illegible] belonging to the [illegible] and the [illegible] of the [illegible] Indians.

Indian Agent also to convert the balance of the property which was stolen. The Respondents then went to Gen. Armstrong the Indian agent who also upon strongly to whom they made complaint and he agreed to remedy forwarded that the sale of all such property together with the expense of recovering it should be deducted out of the first- & security which might still also be demanded upon further application being made for the same which I shall upon will do through the agency of the United States residing near them & their government.

	1500
Drawn which reduced 225 for recovered horses	225
leaving a balance of	1325
which add the sum of	252
makes the expenses of 12 men 13 days	1577

will make the sum of fifteen hundred and twenty seven dollars due my firm as losses and detailing the claims for the recovery of which fees are in short respectfully solicited and we are duly bound will ever pray &c

D Mentle for himself and others

J.A. Shaw
relative to the
relinquishing
land for the
location of
Seat of Govt

Treasury Department
Washington Jan 7th 1840

Gen. A. G. Dennett
Secy, City of State

Sir

I am under the necessity of requesting such information respecting the quantities and descriptions of the lands relinquished by Instructions for the location of the seat of government - as is contained in the representation of State

By furnishing it at your earliest convenience you will oblige your obedt Servant

Joseph Shaw
Secy of Treasury

P.B. Dexter
relative to
Settling his a/c
with Govt

Washington 10th Mar 1840

Gen. Dennett
Sec. City of State

I have received your communication from your Department under date of yesterday of the Hat this morning - been shown me. Prior to my leaving the City of Austin I filed the funds of Gen. A. Sullivan of the House &

Statement of what I am now due to me from Congress believing my claims to be entitled to as well if not more than all former.

The relief which such [illegible] may be stated in few words. As [illegible] the Dept. [illegible] Commissioners [illegible] authorized in their [illegible] with me to draw on [illegible] appropriation in addition to my private [illegible] personal expenses compensation for services as Commissioner from 21st May to October 28th at the rate of two thousand dollars per annum.

By having made out [illegible] receipts there an expenditure of [illegible] due [illegible] Money.

In addition to these there were many other expenses which from their nature cannot be accounted for, which amount to no small sum, and which I must pay from my own pockets. It will also be born in mind that I was sent to the United States at [illegible], and consequently from my position to incur no inconsiderable expense in procuring the [illegible]. It is to enable me to meet this & incidental that I ask compensation as Commissioner &c.

My [illegible] travelling expenses [illegible] (after my return from the [illegible]) to [illegible] and thence to Austin will not vary much from one [illegible] fifty dollars in [illegible] [illegible].

I have thus given a brief statement to my views on the liberality of Congress and [illegible] that it may be [illegible] to deal with me accordingly.

With [illegible] respect,
I have the honor to be
Your Obt. Servt.
[illegible] Butler

Mr. Bryan relative to purchases in N. Orleans.

Consulate of Texas
New Orleans Dec. 11th (?)

Hon. Secty. of State
Austin

Sir, [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] was [illegible] by [illegible] agreeable to your order I have under the superintendence of [illegible] selected [illegible] for the State Dept. with some additions [illegible] [illegible] herewith [illegible] to the care of the Collector at Galveston, [illegible] perfectly agreeable.

Respectfully your Obd. Servant,
Wm. Bryan

Mr. A. Hunt relative to locating 14 leagues of Schooldands.

Quebec 5th Nov. 1841.

[illegible]

In order to return to the Work, we soon as practicable, the good state of land appearance with the Army, under the command of Lt. Governor, to the Settlers of country, in which I was directed to cover the Boundary, strength on our arrival at the mouth of Rivers Jacques Cartier and Connecticut in camp three days. Nothing, in consequence of this delay, escaped from the country, Indian stock and things of that kind. The country appeared to be rich, good land, and tolerably well timbered. After [illegible] thoroughly examined, the [illegible] fourteen leagues of Commission Lands, on the south west bank of the Petawawa, beginning at a stake, giving a navigable fall in the river, about [illegible] miles above the mouth of Rivers, Bagon, and proceeding on the river according, to the directions of the Secty. of State, in my last letter, for instructions.

[illegible]

[illegible]

2

Hunt's

[illegible] as

[illegible] to mark

[illegible] limits between

Texas & U.S.

[illegible]

R. Walpin

[illegible]

[illegible]

Relative to Way of Commutation Land Office —

The Comm. Gen. of Crown Lands has the honor to transmit to the Hon. Sec. of State for the Colonies the enclosed Copy of this correspondence with the Hon. the Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Crown Land Office
(Toronto 18th Nov. 1837)

(Signed) [illegible]

B. Transcript relative to Surveying Public Lands.

Toronto Nov. 17th 1837

To
The Hon. C. L. Daly
Commr. of Crown Lands

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th inst. and beg to express my thanks to the Commr. of Crown Lands, and yourself, for the ready manner in which you have given me a complete map of the work in a short time. I am on the point of making to my fellow-citizens, which will shew my loss in my business, I shall ask of you, to show me so much kindness as to send me your Warrant now in your hands, and dangerous, from it may not expedient to grant. You are aware of the matter it is to get men out on the frontier, when they have met their claims in Land Office. I would wish to know if you think it necessary to have his Private Hands delivered to the Crown Surveyor, that, if there be any difficulty in the Land Office Commissioners, I believe that is not appertaining the road for the Right, it does not lessen the Field Notes of Toronto here.

I have the honor to be
Your obt. Hble. Servt.
(Signed) D. T. Macdonald
Crown Land Agent
(Registered Q. Land)

(Signed) [illegible]

S. Mr. Williams relative to Names, Number & Salaries of Clks in Dept. &c

Toronto Nov. 12th 1837

Hon. Daniel Sherwood
Actg. Secy. of State &c.

The Committee on Finance wish to be informed of the Number & Names of Clerks in the Civil Secretary's Office, and the duty of those clerks, which each receives, and if any such have offered me as Chairman of the Committee to be given for such information. I have, therefore, the honor to request you to lay before the Committee, to enable us to decide on this Contingency, to furnish us with a list of the Clerks, and the duty of Salary which each receives, with the Bureau to which attached.

I have the honor to be
Your
(Signed)

Houston Dec. 4th 1837

Hon David G. Burnet
Sec. Secy. of State

(Dear Sir)

I have just received at this place, and hasten to inform you the state of progress of the translations intrusted to my care. The work is so far advanced as to be ready for the printer, and I should not have been so late in communicating this fact, for I have long expected, and anxiously delayed on one account. I now write to inquire where the work is to be printed. You will please to observe, that the Castilian language can only be printed at an Office where they have the requisite assortment of accents unknown to the English, absolutely necessary to render the Spanish intelligible.

Whether the Government Office at Austin is in a condition to execute the work creditably I am not aware; the person the Secretary's Office here, is, as they have written, the printer of the Statutes of Coahuila & Texas.

Something was said by Judge White in relation to my making a contract in New York, I accordingly endeavored to obtain a proposition, but there is in that City only one Office able to print in Spanish, and that is the Office of the "Noticioso de Ambos Mundos," the publication of which is the Mexican Consul, who is of course not very well disposed towards Texas or Texan Claims. He declined at first, promised to make me a proposition, and after delaying me some time, he refused to do so.

This result, as I before stated, was not to be communicated, but for the expectation that my letter would have been much earlier. Please direct it to be copied, and direct me as to my future course. I expect it is of consequence at the commencement of the Supreme Court, and in case it is expected that the work will be performed there, I desire to be advised of the fact forthwith, so that I can make my arrangements to attend.

Your Obt Servt
(Signed) A. P. Andrews

P. Andrews
relative to the translation & printing the laws in Castilian language

Houston Dec 11th 1837

Hon David G. Burnet
Sec'y Secy of State

(Dear Sir)

I write you two days since to inform you of the state of progress in the translation of the Statutes into Spanish intrusted to my care, and a few more, to provide against the contingency of a failure of my former letter to reach you.

I mentioned then the necessity of being at Austin

at the Session of the Supreme Court, but as an arrangement by which the cases in which I am engaged will be continued, I do not visit the Seat of Government unless it is deemed necessary by a Court to Seal the Warrant in question there.)

I come to my letter of Saving expense as a Truth to me is not much cause to question here, and it is immaterial how soon the contract is completed to that effect.

I am &c

(Signed) S. F. Andrews

Petition praying remittance of fine & imprisonment of Geo. Lord

To

His Excellency
The Governor

Sustitute of the Nigerian Steps.

The petition of the undersigned citizens of Pictou County most respectfully represent that on Saturday the two Indictments were tried at the last term of the District Court for that County, in which he was charged "the Queen of the Plaintiff" that of gaming; in which he was by the Court adjudged and condemned to pay the sum of one pound and twenty five pounds and costs of the suit, and that he should stand committed in the custody of the Sheriff until the same should be paid. There being no Gaol in the said County, the said Sheriff, has been keeping in the custody of the officers of the Law since that time, and their conduct is so illegal, by which a very many expense is being incurred.

Your Petitioners would further state, that from their long and well known acquaintance with the parties, and we have been confined now for a considerable time, and the uncertainty of the amount being paid, we trust to the Sheriff's Lenity.

Petitioners therefore pray your Excellency, in order that the said fine and all imprisonment therein attached may be remitted, and the said prisoner discharged from custody, as we believe no further good can result from a longer punishment, and the same can only be productive of more unjust costs against the Plaintiff, and we trust your Excellency will be doing the Sacred cause of Justice, and your petitioners, as in duty bound will ever pray &c.

Pictou Nov. 11th 1839.

For the Signatures to the above petition, see file of Petitions

J. H. Starr relative to Bond and Commission of A. M. M. Jackson

Treasury Department - Halifax Nov. 11th 1839

His Excellency
The Lieut. Governor
&c &c &c

Allen A. McInchson Esq. has this day given this Dept. a Mortgage Bond as Collector of Customs for the District of Yarmouth, and the appointment of which you have had notice, will follow the Commission from the Secretary's Office.

I have the Honor &c

(Signed)

Austin Nov 17th 1839

Mr. Henry Fisher

Upon this occasion I have received the receipt of your communication of the 15th regarding them to be for the trouble (if he desired the work) of the translation of the Laws of the Republic of Texas in the Spanish Language. I would inform you, that they being distant from their Printing Office, are unable to make a correct estimate of cost, but are willing to do the work as Printers, at the rate of a half price, as there may be profitable work given to the Office of the Austin City Gazette. We are perfectly well aware of the necessary facilities in calculating the cost of the above publication. They would further informs you that they are prepared to do the work in much less time than any other establishment in the Country, according to advertisement in papers prefix expiring from one to two hundred dollars for book.

(Signed) Chas. L. Sherry
Chief Clerk State Dept

Cooper Sengers
Wm. P. M. Cooper

City of Austin
Dec. 18th 1839

To the Hon.
Chas. A. Lamar
Acting Secretary of State

Sir

Your letter of yesterday received on the subject of the Public Department to Texas and Mexico, and the Sums of public School land, for the benefit of public Schools.

On reflection, I would beg leave to inform the Department that the only vacant land in the Country of Victoria is such as will require a long space of time, (if ever it may be into market) being wholly destitute of timber or water.

Thinking that the Secretary would not do justice to the Office, as also, intent to have thought it duty to inform the Department of this circumstance, at the same time holding myself ready at any time to obey such instructions as may be conferred upon the subject.

I have the honor to be respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.

(Signed) Geo. Fisher
Attorney General for Victoria City

Transmitting remit to his Excellency
Fines
The President of the Republic of Texas

The bearer is request your Excellency to remit the fines imposed upon two individuals, a Mr. Bastille, & Saunderson Sutherland at the last term of the District

Court in the County of Degui. The circumstances of the case are as follows: Certain persons were collected at the Lagoon of the Court for plundering and keeping Wreck Vessels, by that means were the above mentioned Bustillo and Otsinero. The Court passed judgment upon the prisoners, and were sentenced under the Sworn by the Court. But the said Bustillo & Otsinero were very unfairly detached from a host of others equally guilty, and unprotected by a Second Court in the Bill of Indictment to the additional charge of allowing the Same or Wreck to be cast in their Grounds. Had all suffered equally, no complaint would have been made, but the injustice of singling out these two persons, and leaving as equally do many others, excited a feeling of general disapprobation, which do not ask any exemption in favour of these individuals from the fair fine imposed for Coasting Wrecks, yet think all suffer equally. We not object their release from the second fine levied on. And in making this request we assure you that we represent the feelings and wishes of almost and no Person upon the entire Coast of the Religeos of Santa Catherina.

(Signed) Most Respectfully
Your Obt Servts
C. Nassoff
Pitman Jones

(Signed)

We have carefully examined the foregoing petition, and fully approve the views therein set forth. We superadd at the Head, our consent with the facts & circumstances, and hope the prayer of the petition may be granted.

(Signed) Samuel H Robinson

C. M. Macguire
relative to
British
Negroes &c

Turks Islands
Government House, Grand Turk
16th October 1835

Sir

Under instructions from her Britannic Majesty's principal Victory Secretary of State for the Colonial Department I do have directed Commander Hamilton of the Royal Navy, who is about to embark for Texas, on Board her Majesty's Ship of War the Fairy, to present this letter to your Excellency.

Commander Hamilton is charged with the Office of demanding on the part of her Majesty's Government, from that of Texas, and of identifying and recovering certain British Negroes, supposed to be detained there as Slaves, and will have the honor of communicating to your Excellency such detailed information, as may be necessary for your Excellency's Board, relative upon this Subject.

I have the honor &c (Signed) A F
Lieutenant Governor
The Honourable
The Government of Texas

If at any time a request that your Excellency will be pleased to facilitate by such Means, as the occasion may require, prompt exertions of Commander Hamilton, of the

mission with which he is entrusted, and soliciting your Excellency's acceptance of my assurances of high consideration.

I have the honor to be, Sir
Your Excellency's
Most obedient and
Humble Servant
(Signed) E. Murray, Marcellejer
Farmer

J. Miller
relative to his
Consulship
at Port of
Marseilles---

Marseilles Oct. 30th 1834

Sir

I have the honor of addressing you by a direct vessel for Galveston, which I have no doubt will be the medium of an active intercourse between the Republic of Texas and this place.

I have not yet obtained an "exequatur" from the French Government, owing to the absence of Mr Henderson. I have, however, just been informed that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will favorably take my Consular application, from the moment the Student Chargé d'Affaires at the Hague returns from his deputation. I shall therefore not fail to bring on present my demand.

In your letter of the authority of Sept 38, you state that you have sent me a volume of laws of the Republic, which however I have not received, I shall be pleased if you kindly direct some trustworthy person at Paris and Havre, with Texas Merchants, to receive it and forward it to me, as I may think necessary on my account.

Be pleased also, to inform me what I shall perform the Consular agency and how to proceed.

With the highest consideration I have the respect to be
Your obedient Servant
J. Miller
U. S. Consul for the Sept Constitutionnelles

To the Hon E.
M. Harrison
Secy of State
Houston Texas

(Signed)

Houston Jany 14th 1840

P.B. Dexter
relative to
settlement
with Gov.t
&c &c &c

Hon David G. Burnet
Acting Sec of State

Sir

My addition to the few words of explanation which I handed you a few days ago, I would remark, that when I expressed a wish to render an account of my Consulship to your Excellency rather when I desired that I might be permitted to account to you for the moneys which I had been entrusted by the Sec of State and that I might have a settlement with the Government.

According to your request Genl Burnet I have his deposition for the time, that as soon as Congress acted upon my petition, I would be prepared to make a final settlement &c.

If it is not too great a tax upon your

which the law, you will add to my obligation to you, by placing this matter in such a light as may expedite their early action upon it. I have the honor, moreover, to solicit your aid about my expenses, for I will show their liberality, compensation you deem just.

For my expenses while travelling from Galveston to the Cabinet, and thence to Austin, I can show no vouchers, as I could not take a receipt for every meal I eat, or for every feed of oats given to my horses.

I ask for compensation for these in order to indemnify myself for extraordinary expenses which I feel obliged to incur in consequence of my position, and which the Commissioner would not feel authorized to allow.

I have the honor to be
Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
P. H. Bayley

(Signed)
J. D. McLeod

Senate Chamber, 7th January 1840

Relative to the Ratification of the Treaty between France & Texas

Sir,

In answer to your enquiry, I take much pleasure in handing you a copy of a resolution introduced in this Chamber, the Treaty of Amity, Commerce and Navigation, between France & Texas was read — and on motion of Mr. Jones of Rodgers. Resolved, That the Senate advise and consent to the Ratification of the Treaty of Amity, Commerce & Navigation, between the President of the Republic of Texas, & the King of the French, concluded at Paris the 25th day of Sept. A.D. 1839, by General Samuel Houston & Henderson, and Louis Le Grand Count Molé, their respective Plenipotentiaries, and to the additional Articles to the said Treaty, concluded as above on the same day.

Which passed by a unanimous vote the 4th January 1840

Your most Respectfully
Samuel Rhoads
(signed)
Chas. A. Wharton
Secy.

L. P. Cooke requesting the loan of Mathematical Instruments.

War Department, Austin Jany 4th 1840

Sir,

Your communication under date 27th Inst. requesting the loan of the Mathematical Instruments belonging to this Dept. for the Comm. appointed to run the Line between Texas, and the United States, has been received. In answer, I have to inform you, that by a law of last Congress, the Sec. of the Navy is required to be informed the Coast & Harbors of Texas. Which law has not carried into effect for the reason, that the necessary instruments were not at the disposal of this Dept. and for which purpose, those now in its possession were ordered.

Taking the consideration indispensibly necessary the surveys should be made as soon as possible, it is the intention of this Dept. to order their commencement immediately, and before it is possible for the Comm. to perform his duty, which is my duty to inform at this time, although I would be happy to accommodate the United States agent in this matter.

Hon. Samuel G. Bryant

[illegible]
[illegible] 1841

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Instructions relative to a communication from the Illinois Magazine Govt.

[illegible]

(Signed)

Chas. H. Slaw relative to the settlement of [illegible] Riley's account

[illegible]

[illegible] in the account of [illegible] The settlement of [illegible] and makes the vouchers being taken [illegible]

I send you at the request of [illegible] the account as [illegible] by him [illegible] compensation per diem, as per [illegible] entitled to exclusive of his personal expenses

Very respectfully, Yr Obt Servt

Please return the instructions with the acct (Signed) Chas. H. Slaw

J. H. Starr relative to the commn of Mr Plummer as Collector

To His Excellency Sir Colin Campbell

Sir

I do hereby recommend Mr Plummer as a person in whom confidence should be placed and will be done for his exertions by the change he has kept

Your obedient servant

(Signed) Jas. H. Starr

Halifax 23rd January 1841

J. M. Cullen relative to Patent for Shingling Machine

Halifax January 24th 1841

Dear Sir

Permit me to introduce to you the bearers Mr Hubbard and Mr Milling. They are from Lunenburg where they have invented an ingenious (as yet secret) method of making and dressing shingles by a machine. Their Company in town, that they can manufacture a thousand in a minute. The machine was originally invented by John Smith in the U.S. but has been improved upon by Mr Hubbard, who is a mechanic of great ingenuity, & has by his skill & ingenuity reduced the number of hands required to perform the work from six to two hands & to make the work that could be performed only by six hands each part the improvement made by Mr Milling. It is an important invention in our Mr & Lumbering Country as well as profitable, and we need to wish it success as long as practicable, the benefits which would result from its use. They are expected here tomorrow & I shall be happy to find their enterprise encouraged by you.

Yours truly

(Signed) Jas. J. Stewart

Hon. Jas. J. Stewart

Halifax

L. C. Cunningham resignation as Chf Justice

Halifax January 25th 1841

My dear Sir

Permit me to request Your Excellency the Receipt of my resignation of the office of the Chief Justice of Nova Scotia, to take effect from the 1st Feby.

I have the Honor to be

Your Ext Svt

(Signed) L. C. Cunningham

J. Hardwar relative his traducement in the Sectian Papers

Hfx. Gaol, Feby 2nd 1840

To his Excellency

William D. Harper

President of the Republic of Texas

Dear Sir

On the 3rd

my left the Honor of transmitting to you my answer to Resolutions against me at the Halifax Mass

Whiting's
expedition.
Verbindung
zwischen
Amerika
und
Indien.

(Signed)

A.B. Shirley
Soliciting the
appointment of
J.R. Reid
Dist. Attorney

Houston, Feby 21st 1841

His Excellency
M. B. Lamar Esq.
Sec. &c.

I have received the first Willson Esq. has been appointed District Attorney for the first District, & A. R. Reid Esq. for the second, and Mr. Lacy does not seek the appointment and understands it is upon solicit the appointment of A.R. Reid Esq. I would not interpose of course, either in the appointment of those two gentlemen, as I consider them generally competent to discharge the duties of the office, and I consider the Government would be no different, either.

I remain Dear Sir
Your Obt Servt
A.B. Shirley

(Signed)

J. H. Starr
Relative to Draft
on Messrs
Hamilton
& Burnley

Treasury Department Texas Feby 12. 1840

Hon. A. S. Wharton
Sec. of State &c.

In compliance with the request contained in your communication of the 11th Inst. I have the honor herewith to transmit a Draft on Messrs James Hamilton and H. W. Burnley, Loan Commr. for Five thousand Dollars, drawn in Duplicate in favor of Hon. Barnard Bee, it being for the outfit and half year's salary of the same as Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic of Texas near the Court of the United States.

I have the Honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
Saml. H. Starr
Secretary of the Treasury

(Signed)

A. Amory
relative to his
taking Charge
of the Archives
at Washington
City

Baltimore, Feby. 15th 1841.

Hon. A. S. Wharton
Secy of State, Repe of Texas
Dear Sir,

I shall leave tomorrow for Washington, to which I have been slowly approximating from New Orleans to the last, encountering on the Mississippi various countless delays and difficulties partly attributable to the severity of the winter, and in part to the imperfect organization of the new boat, of which the most flattering descriptions must be kept up of the economy, manner in all public places, and induce them to take it, and of doing which she will be found if time with them is precious, and this has been urgent.

Receiving a note from Genl Quitman this morning, dated at Washington, stating that Mr. Roberts awaits my arrival to transfer the archives &c. I am very anxious to hear of Col. Bee's confirmation, as an unpleasant situation, not knowing when Genl Quitman may leave. On arrival at Washington, I hope to find a departure received no information since.

[illegible]

(Signed)

[illegible]

Attorney

[illegible]

(Signed)

[illegible]

Attorney

[illegible]

(Signed)

[illegible]

Attorney

[illegible]

(Signed)

[illegible]

Attorney

[illegible]

Houston Sept. 1842

[illegible]

Justice in a law recently passed that the Sec. of State is authorized to cause the laws to be published in the Journals of the Republic. I am desirous to publish them in the Telegraph and wish to procure Copies in order to commence the publication

the individuals can obtain the licenses from the State Department, or cannot they appear in the Austin papers? Please send me more as soon possible, and I proclamation, pursuant the laws, shall already been published, and the parties will be duly respected.

(Signed) Geo. Vincent Jaques
Francis Moore Jr.

Mr. P. Nyche
relative to not holding an Election —

Hon. Secy of State

Austin, Mch 4th 1841

Sir

Your communication bears date the 2d inst. not concerning several proclamations of the President in relation to the Election of a Senator from this Judicial District, received only a few days since. I have deemed it a duty I owe to myself & you, as the Statement therein contained might be considered as a sort of charge, to explain my duty in carrying out the provisions of the law, & to state fully accounts why an Election was not held in that County as directed by the President.

Very respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
Mm P. Hyde U.S.M.

J. H. Starr
relative to building a room for Comptroller —

Hon. Secy of State

Treasury Department
Austin May 20th 1841

Sir

It is mortifying that the Comptroller should have no other room in the transaction of business of his office, in addition to that now occupied by him, & am persuaded that a small house can be built adjoining the dwelling that would serve his purpose for a hundred dollars or thereabouts, and would thereby protect the property pertaining thereto & contract for its erection.

Respectfully
Your Ob. Servt.
Jno. Mc Clure
Secy of Treasury

J. W. Cruger
relative to publishing the laws at Houston —

Houston, May 25th 1841

Sir

The roads are now so bad, that it will be impossible for me to forward the laws, by any supplies of printing material, to Austin so as to complete the publication of the laws in time. The time prescribed by law, I have been unable to obtain paper from the Clerks of the Supreme Court in the possession at Austin. If you will forward Copies of the general laws to this place, I can have them published in a few weeks, and I will superintend, in all cases. If the work published here should be inaccurate I can keep all the Copies except a sufficient number to furnish the Judges, & Chief Justice republish the work again at Austin. It will be better for the work to be here than at Austin, as it can be done in one third of the time, and can be distributed to the public at that place, than at any other. There is no law to prevent the publication, and if necessary, I will engage a proof reader, to superintend the work without any extra cost to the Govt.

Houston City Texas
1st Feby 1841

Sir,

[illegible] to me on my arrival in this City, that a gentleman by the name of Thomas, the Public Schooner "Austin" lying off the City, the Public Schooner "Austin" [illegible] in the year 1834 [illegible] by order of the Mexicans, is now [illegible] at present detained as a prisoner by one Gray [illegible] Texan Navy, residing on the banks of the Brazos River.

Believing as I do, that it is the intention of his Excellency the President of Texas, that the policy of this Government at all times, pursue the most liberal deportment with the Mexicans according to precedent in such cases made and provided, I have no regard on the part of his Excellency the President, that his Government will be pleased to direct steps to be taken for the release of the said Mexican, with commendable and satisfactory terms to the Mexican Government, such conduct on the part of this Government, by causing the same Vessel to be delivered up to its rightful owners, would greatly [illegible] the officers.

I state the particulars, but [illegible] have the honor to be, Sir, [illegible]

[illegible] Your obedient servant
[illegible] (Signed) [illegible]
[illegible] Texas [illegible]

Do.

The Public Schooner "Austin," Captain Hill, was in the mouth of the Brazos in the commencement of the year 1834, [illegible] by order of the Mexicans, Hardeman, and Hill, it is said was seized at the same time & on same account, the Schooner Dolphin, Captain Jones, now the property of a Mexican in service of the Mexican Government, was sent to order of the Mexicans, then residing at San Felipe, [illegible] to the Brazos, where she died a short time, [illegible] the mouth of Capt. Jones, at the Brazos, [illegible] the Vessel, but it is supposed he is now in the possession of Mexicans, the [illegible] the Mexicans, and also residing on the Brazos.

(Signed) [illegible]
Texas

D. Wallace
Relative to
[illegible] the

Matagorda, Feby 28th 1841

Sir,

A question has arisen in my mind, whether the Secretary of State requires me to publish all the Laws, or public special, passed in the last Congress, or whether the publication of his Laws of a public nature, not sufficient to carry out the intention of the Act? I would thank you to inform me as soon as practicable what is the opinion of the Sec. of State upon this subject, as well, as whether the $300 in payment is in Constitutional currency, or Legal Money.

Wm. Waples
Chief Clerk of
The Dept. of State

Very respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
H. L. Wallace

J. Humphrey
praying pardon
from the Cadaman
Laws &c

San Antonio March 4th 1840

Dear Sir

Unless the Law be suspended, and to pardon in cases of murder and other crimes therein mentioned, is prohibited in a week or two, I trust you will have them released forthwith, and the copies sent to the Clerks. They are now in jail, and I request that I have not copies of them now, as the District Attorney is anxious to begin them. The expense of keeping them will be paid on my return to Austin. I shall endeavor to carry the notes of the defendants and witnesses to the County Court in that neighborhood. The Camanche chiefs have been in the City, but have not left, with the promise that their tribe will return with them in a few days.

With great respect
Your Ob. Servt
(Signed) John Humphrey

J. Collins
reception of
Commr's Bond
Transmitted &c

Austin, Travis Co. Texas, March 1840

Sir

Your communication of the 4th inst. has been received by Commissioner Cameron, and I feel, in regard to my duties, relative to the Indians, sufficiently, the importance of the trust, the Honorable the Secretary of State has confided to me, and I have formed at an earlier date, but was prevented by severe indisposition. Other cases. The receipt of it, you will have the goodness to acknowledge.

I have the honor to be, Most respectfully
(Signed) John Collins
C.P.H.C.

J. Fisk
reception of
the appointment
of Chief Justice

Bastrop March, 11th 1840

Sir Stephen Pharr Esq.

Sir

I have just received from his Excellency the President, a Commission appointing me Chief Justice of Bastrop County, together with your instructions, in the receipt, I do inform the Department of State, of my acceptance, in some respects of the duties I hereby notify you of my acceptance.

(Signed) Respectfully Yours &c
J. Fisk

J. McKnight
relative to the
appointment of
Mr Cole
Notary
Public

Austin, 5th March, 1840

Sir

Your letter of the 2nd inst. has been received, and I feel gratified in being able to inform you, that the appointment of Notary Public, and have been made by him to inform you, that it is his request that the appointment, and he wishes you to examine whether or not his County has issued, and if not, to inform, by the next opportunity, some attention to which, certain things, as specified, both by Mr Cole & myself.

Hon. A. S. Lipscomb
Secy of State

Respectfully Yours &c
(Signed)

No 17

Legal Department
Tree Commissioners Office 11th March 1841

Hon. Jno. Pendleton White
Nashville Tenn.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the 7th ultimo accompanying a package directed to the Legislature at Cincinnati, carefully to hand. I have it in charge of Mr. H. H. Allen who promised to deliver it immediately on his arrival there. Herewith I have the honor to transmit returns from official records Book of this Commission, ending 6th January 1841. You may perceive some of the fees are not properly classified, such as Witness, etc, which account is not headed in the form prescribed. Therefore I might not tender it, even not my intentions to submit to the view of the Executive the entire account of all proceedings transacted under my official authority. I do not believe to my knowledge, have deviated from the instructions in consequence of entering of returns at the period specified. My predecessors were equally in default, & their proceedings are not on the archives in this office. Discovering of my error, and the unpleasant feelings derived therefrom will induce me from this date to keep the most minute record of all that transpires, which may at the present or at some future period be of service to the Republic.

Many applications are daily made relative to the acts of our state Congress, & have not been honored with a copy of the Act. Orders received from the different Departments of the Legislature have been promptly attended to, to the utmost of my ability, whether they were or were not designated in the prescribed form of instructions. Hereafter in my future operations I shall omit no pains to merit approbation.

All orders from the different Departments of Legislature are now complied with, and as I am desirous to close the accounts of my agency for the Republic, I repair to the entire satisfaction of the Executive, as well as to relieve my sureties, (whom I have not been given) of a short but trifling. I am informed to draft you for the amount of fees. The advance from my pocket will be paid, and if you think proper to grant this indulgence, I will view a deposition amply good efficient to discharge the duties of this Commission.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
(Signed)
Chas. Dugan
Consul.

Nashville Davidson Co. 11th March 1841

Sir

Recently the Commission of Notary Public was forwarded home from your Office, the last Congress having attached a part of Washington County to Obion, Henderson & Mercer, that I should be furnished with a copy of the laws previous to the Spring term of the Circuit Court, which will commence on the first Monday in April. The most pressing duties from Clerk & Master will be the most speedy conveyance. By so doing, you confer a favor on your Obt. Servt.
(Signed)
Hugh F. King
C. & M. C.

Hon. H. A. Dickerson
Secy of State

H. B. King
Exemption of Commission as Justice

A. Somerville
declining the
appointment of
Commr of the
Board of Land
Commrs &c

Richmond, 20th March 1840

To the Hon
Mirabeau B. Lamar
Secy of State

Sir

On the 17th last I received an appointment as Commissioner to inspect the Records of the Board of Land Commissioners, in each of the Counties of the Red River. My situation is such that I will be unfitted, on me to perform the duties. I therefore take this the earliest opportunity since its receipt to decline the acceptance of the appointment.

I am very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. Somerville

(Signed)

A. M. Jackson
packages (Dens &c
forwarded=

Galveston, 23rd March 1840

Your favor of the 17th last was rec'd yesterday, and I hasten to forward the accompaining packages to Mr. Bryan & the Colonels. The moment departed for New Orleans.

I have the honor to be
With great respect
Your Most Obt Servt
Mirabeau M. Jackson
Collector

Hon. A. G. Dimitt
Actg Secy of State

(Signed)

Mr. R. Hill
relative to
a petition for
commitment of
Jno. C. Anderson

Austin 21st March 1840

His Excellency
M. B. Lamar President
&c

Upon a petition I am informed is about to be presented to you, praying your Excellency to remit certain fines imposed by the last District Court of this County, on Jno. C. Anderson, of this Town, & others, for keeping tavern without licence &c, Allow me to state to your Excellency that the case of Mr. Anderson, is our only peculiar hardship. During most of last year, we had no tavern in Austin (except perhaps Mr. Manchers) which was always crowded, and travellers are strangers frequently left at Mr. Andersons, because they could find no other place of shelter, and he entertained them for the same reason. Mr Anderson is a gentleman of good character, known probity, and one of our best citizens.

I am Sir, Your Obt Svt &c
R. P. Hill

J. P. Bordine
soliciting the
appointment of
J. H. Barnard
Co. Surveyor

General Land Office, Austin, May 11th 1840

Sir

The office of County Surveyor for Fort Bend, being now vacated by the resignation of Saml Rich, Esq. Joseph H. Barnard has been recommended to me as a suitable person to fill the vacancy. Being personally acquainted with Mr. B. I have no hesitation in saying that I believe him competent, and in every respect the appointment.

Your Excellency
Most Obt Svt
Mirabeau B. Lamar

(Signed)

Thomas Green
Chief Clk

Letter to Aunt Smyth

Clifton House, Jefferson Co. Aug 1840

Sir

[illegible]

(Signed)

[illegible]

C. Lane acceptance of the appointt of Notary Public

Hon. A. W. Sprigg
Sec. of State

Sir

The Commission from his Excellency Governor Lucas to the Office of Notary Public for the County of Jefferson has duly been received. I am happy to express my acceptance of the appointment, and will render my services to the best and confidence reposed in me, and be [illegible] to the duties of the office, [illegible] on such occasions as may be required of me, and [illegible] the Clerk [illegible] Notary Public [illegible] the County of Jefferson, which is entered on the [illegible] of the Commission.

Wm. Henderson acceptance of the appointt of Distt Attorney

Hon. A. W. Sprigg
Sec. of State

Sir

The Commission as District Attorney for the fifth Judicial District came to hand a few days since, and now as bearer I forward my acceptance of the appointment. It is with diffidence in my qualifications that I undertake to discharge the duties of an office requiring such heavy responsibility, but my zeal and assiduity employed in labors such as may be required, to fill it with honor to myself, and advantage to the Republic.

Pray my acknowledgments to the President and all them I feel highly honored by the confidence he has reposed in me, and will endeavor to deserve it.

With assurances of esteem I remain

(Signed)

Cincinnati, May 2d 1841

Hon. A. W. Sprigg
Sec. of State

Sir

To receive your communication of the 15th ult. by accompanying a

Mr Burnet [illegible] of the [illegible] Port [illegible]

Commission as Consul of this port with instructions &c

After mature reflection, guided by a desire to accept the Office, I have concluded the present condition of my affairs will prevent my undertaking its duties, I am therefore constrained to decline the office

For your consideration please accept my acknowledgments &c

I have the honor to be very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
R. H. Dunn

(Signed)

(No 18)

Mr Bryan relative to despatches &c

Consulate of Texas for Cinn. Apl 1st 1840

To the Hon Secretary of State
Austin

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor under date of the 12th Ultimo, accompanying the documents per Hagen. In compliance with your request this was addressed to Mr Buckingham, I handed it to the Brazil Consul, requesting him to forward it by the first conveyance. The other to Mr Dunn is the owner of the Brazos Ship. United States Consul at Vera Cruz. I have deposited in the letter bag of the Schooner Esmeralda for Vera Cruz, to sail this day.

Very respectfully Your Obt Servt
Mm Bryan
Consul

(Signed)

J. Morton accepting the appointment of Notary Public

Ma tagorda, Apl 5. 1840

To his Excellency Mirabeau B. Lamar
President of the Republic of Texas

Sir

Through the medium of the Hon. Abner S. Lipscomb Secy of State, I have had the honor to receive from your Excellency the Commission of Notary Public for the County of Matagorda, dated on the 25th day of February last. I therefore take the liberty through the same channel of notifying you of my acceptance of the same, and of tendering to your Excellency my most grateful acknowledgments, and sincere thanks. Any commands of your Excellency will be most cheerfully and punctually attended to.

I have the honor to be Most
Respectfully Your Ob Servt
James Morton

(Signed)

A. M. Ratcliff acceptance of the appointment of Consul = Port N York

Consulate of the Republic of Texas
New York, Apl 5th 1840

To the Hon. Abner S. Lipscomb
Secy of State.

Sir

I have had the pleasure to receive your communication of the 5th of Feby last, and with it a Commission as Consul of the Republic of Texas for this port, which the President has the honor to honor me with, and which I accept with much

Permit me through you, to return my acknowledgments

for this mark of confidence; and trust I shall merit a continuance of it, by a proper attention to, and a faithful discharge of the duties of the office, I have long felt a deep interest in the welfare and prosperity of Texas, which this favour indeed in a manner so gratifying, will tend to strengthen.

The Exequatur alluded from Judge Hardeman (late Consul) the Seal of the Republic up to Jany 26th 1839, his Credential instructions, official Seal, and some more or less papers bring all the effects & materials belonging to the Office. From this you will perceive that I am without any instructions in regard to the laws that may have been passed the last session of Congress relative to the Commerce of the country. Immediately after taking ~~oath of the~~ Office I forwarded my Commission to Genl Murphy the Minister at Washington for acknowledgement by the Executive of this Government, & have this morning received it again, accompanied by the corresponding Exequatur bearing date the 7th Sept. as soon as practicable I will forward my bond to your Department in conformity to the Constitution & Statutes.

I have the honor to be
Your Obt. Servt
(Signed) Angt W. Metcliffe

C. A. Forbes
Resignation as
Vice Consul
Port, New
York

New York. April 22d 1841.

To
The Honorable the Secretary of
State of the Republic of Texas.

Sir,

Having been heretofore appointed Vice Consul of Texas for this City by John Woodward late Consul General, resident here, under due authority contained in his Commission such appointment having been duly communicated to the Department of State in Texas, and an exequatur issued thereon by this Government and published in the usual manner, Mr Woodward having ceased to act as Consul General, and Consuls having been appointed for this City which has not the effect of superseding my appointment; my Services as Vice Consul are rendered superfluous, and as there is no officer here to whom I can resign, I therefore respectfully tender to the Government my resignation of the office of Vice Consul, and request the written acceptance thereof.

There is no money, or other property of the Government, in my possession.

I have the honor to be
very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) Charles A. Forbes.

P. Hamilton — a letter forwarded

Galveston City Texas
21st April 1840.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st of March 1840, which will (on my arrival at Barbados) be forwarded to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State.

I have the honor to be with the high
Consideration Your obedient Servant
P. Hamilton
Commissioner.

To The Hon
A. S. Lipscomb
Secretary of State, Texas.

P. Hamilton relative to the recovery of British Negroes.

Galveston City, Texas.
21st April 1840.

Sir,

In closing my mission, I have the honor to inform you that I have been successful in recovering four of the Negroes introduced into this Country by Mr John Taylor of Barbados; of the remaining three, one is supposed to have been drowned, another left with Mr William Moore of Anahuac is supposed to have been kidnapped and carried into the United States of America; and the third, left with Mr David Garner of Cowtayon, was sold in Louisiana --- The woman and her three children are supposed to have been murdered at Brush Island on the Coast of Louisiana.

I have the honor to be with great
Consideration Your Obedient Servant
P. Hamilton
Commissioner.

To The Hon
A. S. Lipscomb
Secretary of State, Texas.

P. W. Cruger relative to pay for printing the Spanish Laws

Houston May 14th 1840.

To the Hon
Secretary of State

Sir, Mr Abbotts is authorized by me to settle with the Government for printing of the Spanish Laws so far as we have progressed as you will see by the copy sent you for Mr Eldridge Mr Andrews certificate of their correctness will be handed you by Mr Abbotts -- I have made out the account as per contract Gold & Silver or its equivalent, Gold and Silver is selling at this present time in this City at 7 & 8. for 1. as you will see by the certificates of Gentlemen in this City who deal in Exchange -- Mr Eldridge informed you had some doubts as to the propriety of paying for the work until completed as it was not so specified in the contract - when the contract was made it was understood that such was to be the case, but not specify it as it had always been customary to do so - a - from that fact, it is regarded that we should be paid as we go in the work - the job is a very expensive one - and the

I trust the Honble Secretary will take these facts into
and authorize the 1/3 to be paid - unless we are
obliged to stop the work - as our debts are
Gold Notes are worth two for

for all dues coming to the establishment. I would much prefer the Gold & Silver to the promissory notes at sum, as the I hope the Secretary will approve the account as in Illinois is sent up expressly for the purpose of getting the money in lieu my state depreciance for the purpose of purchasing stores &c &c.

With sentiments of the highest esteem
I respect Honorable Gentlemen
Your Obt Servt
Stephen Cooper

Columbus Ga. May 5th 1840.

T. Reid
relative to
tent for
Cotton Gin

Sir

When I left Mexico I expected to remove from here to Texas Republic in a month back, but from my unsettled business here, I could not do so, as I am entirely all offering, and should have done so, but in January I read Eaton's work on the Revolution, and in February last my Wife's health has not been able to work a step since — and knowing it is not necessary to have an agent to operate for me in my absence (as the Correct Rule, left) I wish to offer that I had at the same time written to Col Gordon to act for me, (if it was necessary according to the Patent Laws) as I would be probably next year all business done over, and I wrote to him particularly to write me, but have had nothing from him. I hurriedly the letters misconceived. I now write him again to do the same effect, but if he should not be in Texas, or in the country, &c. will please consider this as authorizing your to act for me, making an application that may for me. I will be obliged next winter there will likely be no application for License to make or use the improvement (Yours, or till I come out, but if so the rate is five (current money) for each cotton making or ginning stand. My Wife's name is entered in the Patents, but I am well probably to be in Texas in the course of Summer so will have rather instructions from me.

Respectfully Yours &c
Stapleton Reid

Mr Emery,
(Signed)

Lib. Pres. Ala. 20th 1841
Jefferson County.

H. Everett
relative to a
robbery &c

Sir

Yesterday I received your
wish, from that for will day before the Attorney the President
a statement of facts taken before one of our Justices of the Peace
for this County of one of the greatest cases of robbery and forgeries
in any country. The robber, notorious scoundrels and have thus
far escaped punishment. In this a case in which the Government should
directly use its best exertions (by offering a reward) to bring the
offenders to Justice, the individual robbed, was a recent emigrant
from Germany (I believe) of industrious & moral habits, a good

citizen and a useful member of society, by this act he has lost all efforts have been made by our civil authorities to capture the robbers but hitherto unsuccessful. I trust that his Excellency will deem it of sufficient importance to offer a reward for the apprehension of the robbers, there is but little doubt of their capture if a reward is offered as they are well known.

With sentiments of the highest regard I have the honor to be Sir your very obt Svt humble Svt

(Signed) J. H. Everett

Mr Clark relative to the robbery of G. A. Santins supposed by D. B. Posey & Stewart

Republic of Texas, County of Austin, } Personally came and appeared before me James Clark an acting Justice of the Peace in and for said County. G. A. Santins who being duly sworn. Declares upon oath, that two men came to his house on Adam's Bayou in said County about four o'clock on the morning of Friday the 17th day of April A.D. 1840. when I was at work on a fence, a short distance from my house, at a point of woods, from which two men leaped out within eight or ten feet of me, the one with a rifle and Bowie knife the latter cocked and presented to my breast, and the other man with a short gun and pistol, he also gun levelled upon me in the same manner, calling upon me to stand and make no resistance or they would instantly shoot me. I asked them what they wanted of me, they told me to cross my hands and be tied or they would kill me, upon which the man with the short gun took the Bowie knife and swore if I did not instantly submit to be tied, I had not a moment to live, upon which they crossed my hands before me and bound them strongly with a cord. They then brought me to the front of my house, with one of them stood guard over me and my wife whom they also ordered to stand at the back of her left, while the other entered my house and forced open my trunks and other repositories and took from thence twenty eight hundred dollars in Texas Treasury Notes, to wit, fifteen six hundred dollar notes, ten tens, and twenty six fifty dollar notes, all but one of the above - one hundred dollars in gold, eighteen half eagles United States Gold, 5 pieces, and two Mexican Sovereigns, and one hundred dollars in five twenty dollar notes on the Bank of Orleans, and two dollars on the Bank of Illinois, and three bills, a five, a two, and twenty dollars on one of the French Banks of New Orleans, and a three dollar bill on the bank of West Florida, all the above bills and money were in one pocket book, also another small pocket Book containing between twelve and fifteen dollars in silver - one thirty-three five and two two dollar Texas Treasury also one silver watch with a silver face, french cylinder manufactured by (Dwz) Mr not recollected - but cost four units and commencing with 19... with a gold chain, and a gold key with a steel pipe - and gold ear drops - and two breast pins - one square inch with a Brown stone, the other of

for all dues coming to the establishment — I would much prefer the Note & Letter to the Promissory Notes at Sight for me — I hope the Hon Secretary will approve the account as Mr Abbotts is sent up expressly by me for the purpose of getting the money is being my sole dependence for the purpose of purchasing paper &c. &c.

With sentiments of the highest esteem & respect — I remain yours &c —

J. M. Cooper —

Columbus Ga. May 17th 1840 —

Frank Lane to Sent for Allen Gin.

Dear Sir —

When I left Texas I expected to remove from here to the Republic in November last, but from my unsettled business here, I was unable to have, as I then calculated till Spring, and should have done so, but in January I was taken with the Rheumatism, and in February had my thigh broken and have not been able to walk a step since — And thinking it was necessary to have an Agent to represent me in my Patent for the Cotton Gin in my absence (as Mr Cornick had left) I wrote to Mr Clark that I had at the same time written to Col Gordon to act for me, (if it was necessary according to the Patent Law) as it would be probably next Feb before I could come out, and requesting him particularly to write me, but have had nothing from him, I think likely the letters miscarried — I now write him again to the same effect, but if he should not be in Austin, or in the Country, you will please consider this as authorizing you to act for me in making any appointment in that way for me, till my arrival next winter, there will likely be no application for Licence to make or use the improvement this Year, or till I come out, but if so, the rates is $100 (current money) for each case making or using same — My Brother who is interested in the Patent with me will probably be in Texas in the course of Summer — he will have further instructions from me —

Respectfully Yours &c

Templeton Reid

Mr Amory

(Signed)

Sabine Pos. May 28th 1840 —
Jefferson County —

Wm Cornell Letter in a robbery &c.

Dear Sir

I take the liberty to write to you, as I know that you will stand before His Excellency the President a statement of facts taken before one of our Justices of the Peace for Hill County, of one of the greatest pieces of villany ever practised in any country, the rogues are notorious scoundrels and have thus escaped Justice — I view it a case in which the Government should directly use its best exertions (by offering a reward) to bring the offenders to Justice, the individual robbed, was a recent emigrant from Germany (I believe) of industrious & moral Habits, a good

Ms Clark relative to the robbery of G. A. Santin. (Supposed by) D. B. Posey & Stewart —

citizen and a useful member of society, by this act he has lost his all.. efforts have been made by our Citizens authorities to Capture the Robbers, but thus far unsuccessful— I trust that his Excellency will deem it of sufficient importance to offer a Reward for the apprehension of the Robbers, there is but little doubt of their Capture if a Reward is offered as they are well known—

With Sentiments of the Highest Regard I have the Honor To be Sir Your Very Obt Servt

(Signed) S. H. Everitt

Republic of Texas, } Personally came and appeared before me
County of Jefferson, } James Clark an acting Justice of the Peace in and for said County— G. A Santins who being duly sworn. Declares upon oath, that two men came to his house on Adam's Bayou in said County— about four O'clock on the evening of Friday the 17th Day of April A.D. 1840. when I was at work on a fence, a short distance from my house, at a point of woods, from which two men issued out within eight or ten feet of me, the one with a rifle and Bowie knife the rifle cocked and presented to my breast, and the other man with a short gun and pistol, his gun levelled upon me in the same manner. Calling upon me to stand and make no resistance or they would instantly shoot me. I asked them what they wanted of me. they told me to cross my hands and be tied or they would kill me. upon which the man with the short gun took the Bowie knife and swore if I did not instantly submit to be tied, I had not a moment to live, upon which they crossed my hands before me and bound them strongly with a cord— they then brought me to the front of my house, and one of them stood guard over me and my wife whom they also ordered to stand at the peril of her life, while the other entered my house and forced open my trunks and other repositories and took from thence twenty eight hundred dollars in Texas Treasury Notes, to wit— fifteen one hundred dollar notes, five backs— and twenty six fifty dollar notes, all but one of the new issue— one hundred dollars in gold, eighteen half eagles United States Gold & 5 pieces and two British Sovereigns— and one hundred dollars in five Twenty dollar notes on the Bank of Orleans, and twenty Dollars on the Bank of Illinois— and three bills, a five, a ten, and a Twenty dollars— on one of the French Banks of New Orleans, and a three dollar bill on the bank of west Florida, all the above bills and money were in one pocket book, also another small pocket Box containing between twelve and fifteen dollars in Silver— and one twenty-two five and two three dollar Texas Treasury notes also one Silver watch with a Silver face, french cylinder manufactured by (Dror) Nos not recollected— but contains five units and commencing with 19... with a gold guard chain, and a gold key with a steel pipe— and two pr Gold Ear drops— and two breast pins— one Squaw about inch with a Brown Stone, the other an oblong

brown stone, and two gold finger rings - one with a Black Stone upon which is engraved the word (gift) the other a Diamond ring - with articles of Jewelry not sufficiently recollected to describe - the man who entered the house brought out with the articles above described, some linen shirts and my rifle gun, but upon consulting with the other, fired off my gun and threw it back into the house with the shirts and empty pocket books, and made off with the money, Jewelry and watch and bottle of Champaigne towards the landing on Adams Bayou the man with the rifle was a tall man slim build, about five feet eleven inches in height, bony face - high forehead, long neck, a large protuberance on the throat or round piece, has some defect in his right foot, walks quick, I have since ascertained that he goes by the name of D. B. Posey and has become notorious for his villiany - the other man is about five feet five inches in height square built, broad face, dark hair and brown eyes - goes by the name of Stewart, has a rotten or black tooth in front -

Sworn to before me this 20th Day of April 1840 -

(Signed) Samy Clark Jun
Justice of the Peace -

Houston 12th June 1840 -

J. S. Lipscomb
relative to printing
the laws in Houston
& payment
of the same

Sir,

I have concluded, that it will be best to have the Laws printed at this place. You will, therefore, let Mr Cruger have the copies, I wish you to ask the advice of Judge Webb in relation to the account of Moore & Cruger for printing the Laws of Texas, the same on which part payment has been made, at five to one. If by a reference to the contract it should appear that they are entitled to par funds, I suppose that Six to One must be allowed, as I am well informed that it is at this time worth no more. The Judge will understand from the contract, whether the work ought to have been completed at a time when our promissory notes were not so much depreciated. -

Yours, respectfully -
(Signed) Anson S. Lipscomb
Secy of State -

Mr. Mr Apsly
Chf Clk. State Dept

B. Lamar
relative to Com.
Moore's occupy-
ing a position
near Vera Cruz -
instructions
to Treat
& in matters -

Galveston 11th June 1840 -

Dear Judge.

I have just rec^d a letter from the Secretary of the Navy which induces me to believe that he has either declined his visit to this Island, or will not be here in time to issue orders contemplated for the Navy, as I may possibly leave tomorrow morning for Houston on an absence of a few days. I must ask of you to make out instructions to Commodore Moore to the following effect (Viz) that he will proceed as ~~[illegible]~~ speedily as convenient to some situation near Vera Cruz, Miaviandas for instance or some other point which he can occupy with safety to his fleet, and without involving the Govt in any belligerent operations, which it is my intention at present to avoid as far as is consistent with dignity & honor.

I wish him to remain there until further orders, making no

captures unless he is forced into hostilities by the conduct of the enemy. I will take with him as many of our armed vessels as are manned and equipped for service; my object, being not to commence operations against our enemy on the Gulf as yet, but to be on the theatre of action, when action becomes necessary. - - - - You will also please address a communication to Mr. Treat our agent in Mexico apprising him of this movement of our naval force, and let him know that it is not done with a view of making war immediately upon the enemy, but to be in a state of readiness to do it suddenly & vigorously so soon as the unfavorable result of his negotiations may render such a course necessary. As our policy must necessarily be predicated in some degree upon the good or ill prospects of his mission, it will be important to us for him to answer the following questions, together with such others as your judgement may suggest.

First. what effect is the disposition of our naval force likely to have on his negotiations. will it be calculated to facilitate or retard them?

2dly. What are the prospects of effecting a permanent pacification; flattering or otherwise? If not flattering, can it be effected to continue for one two or three years? if yes, how long will it take to bring it about?

3dly. I wish you to write further to Mr. Treat, that although the Govt. of Mexico may probably be in earnest in any professions which she makes favourable to our views, yet there is a possibility that her object may only be to delay giving a final answer for the purpose of gaining time.

We shall be forced to put this interpretation upon any undue procrastination on her part. Delays are dangerous to us, because it is known that whilst Mexico is delaying her final answer to Great, she is preparing a strong Naval force. It therefore becomes our duty to act a speedy termination of the negotiation, before Mexico can perfect any of her plans against us. If Mr. Treat should feel great confidence that a little further forbearance on our part, would insure a peace on a basis on as ready to profit by his suggestions but do not wish the Enemy to get advantage over us by flattering him with hopes which are not intended to be realized.

It would be well for Mr. Treat to urge upon Mexico the moderation of this Govt. in not co-operating (thus far) with the Federalists on the Rio Grande, as she has been strongly solicited to do, & might have done, to great benefit to herself & detriment to Mexico. a forbearance which we cannot practice much longer, lest we lose all the advantages which such a co-operation would give us, without gaining anything from the Central Govt. of Mexico.

Mr. Treat should be duly apprised of the movements of the Federalists on the Rio Grande, the great disposition of the people to flock to their standard, and the impossibility of restraining them much longer.

Mr. Treat can read such parts of your letter to the Mexican Cabinet as he may think proper.

The ones party will be idle and impatient until we

it will be important that he commence it as soon as practicable; and as an action upon the subject will immediately depend upon the status of his commission, we shall wait very anxiously to hear from

Signed Alexander H. Stephens

A. H. Stephens
Secy of State

Sir, You will please make such additional reflections & suggestions to Mr Trist as may appear to you proper & interesting, & direct our last by way of Memorandum Analysis — & great haste — Yours &c

Alex. H. Stephens

P.S. You will also apprise Commodore Moore that if no redress against Pastell can be obtained of any improper conduct on his part as an officer of the Army in which it is alleged he has been guilty, in conformity with orders from this Dep.t, he consider the order for Pastell's arrest as withdrawn. — — — — — — — — — — — — A. H. S.

(Private.)

Lt. B. Lamar
relative to Capt
Cadwright
aiming a squa-
ron - also a
settlement
with the
Capt &c

City of Austin,

Sir, Mr Pastell, tells me that he heard it mentioned by some one that Captain Wheelwright said about it leave the fleet in a few days, to join the Squadron on the Gulf, I do not credit him for I also do so, until he receives orders to that effect; I hear also that he has recruited men enough almost to man the Austin; this is not originally my design when I drew on the Custom House for funds to recruit with; my object was merely to enable him to procure men enough to take care of the vessels in Port & keep them in good order &c. I would be glad that you would enquire into these things, and by all means have a settlement with the Captains, before you leave, with regard to the disbursement of the funds drawn from the Collector. I want to know how many men he has recruited - how many dollars has been expended; and vouchers for every thing which he has done - this is essential to a correct mode of doing business, and I must ask of you the favor to attend to it for me.

Your friend &c

Signed B. T. Lamar

A. Canalizo
relative to
orders from
Navy
&c &c

Galveston City Nov. 1st 1840.

Sir,

The undersigned commander-in-chief of the Federal and of the Northern frontier of the Mexican Republic has the honor of acknowledging to the Hon. Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas, the receipt of his extremely note of the 16th ult. in which he is pleased to make some observations upon the delivery of two deserters from the Navy, who are said to have gone for concealment to the Camp of certain individuals who have congregated themselves, it is supposed with a view to join the army under his command.

The undersigned hopes that the Hon. Secretary of State will rest assured that he would be the last to allow or permit those

under his orders, were they to be disbanded, to conceal the deserters refused to
any other, thereby laying himself liable to the just censure of the Govt of
this Republic, already has the Favors that have shown him and his Caus

In the present case however, the Company of men alluded to not being
enlisted in the service of the Federal Cause, and consequently not under
his Command, the undersigned will take particular pleasure to request
earnestly of him and all others if they be friendly to the Cause he sus
tains, to abstain from concealing or permitting to be concealed among
them said deserters, or any other, this step has already been taken,
and the undersigned has the satisfaction of stating to the Hon. Secretary
of State, that Capt. Hom who commands the Citizens alluded to
will with pleasure accompany Lieut Williamson or any other officer in
examining all the men that accompany him, and should such
Deserters be recognized among them, far from admitting or conceal
ing them, he will do every thing in his power to have them apprehended

I have the honor to be with great respect
Your most humble and obt Servt
Lee, Ano. Canalizo

To the Hon.
Stone S. Upscomb
Secretary of State of the Republic
of Texas —

(Copy)

Presidio, Presidio County Texas
July 1st 1840.

B.F. Neal — Relative to County Officers Federal — Difficulties

Sir —

Complaints having been made to me that several of the
County Officers are sworn to the Federal Govt and have received com-
missions from the Govt of Rio Grande — this fact gives rise to an important
question that as Chief Justice I do not feel myself empowered with
power sufficient to settle, neither do I wish to act upon this matter
without receiving instructions from high authority — according to the Con
stitution of Coahuila and Texas, Art 20. Section 2. which says
that "the rights of citizenship shall be forfeited by admitting Offi
ces, pensions, or titles from a foreign Government without permission
from Congress," whether the adoption of the Common law has amend
the above law referred to, I know not, never having met with that act
But I am fully satisfied that upon General principles of law,
no one can hold an Office under the Government.

I am informed that it is the intention of those persons that
have accepted offices under the New-Republic to return their sworn
Offices and have the duties of the same carried by deputy until
their return or the termination of the war — This creates considerable
dissatisfaction among the Citizens, and I am anxious to know what
are the necessary steps to be taken to settle the question satisfa
to all parties — [illegible] information or instructions from the Executive
Department would easily settle the matter. So that I might be
be governed. Your Excellency are doubtless aware of the secret org
of this County and the difficulties that we are now laboring under
of our frontier location, having a foreign Army on one of
Boundary line and bands of Marauders traversing different

country calling themselves Federals, being armed and carried with weapons of war our citizens know not when and where they are in safety— In fact reports are daily in circulation of the loss of property that individuals have sustained by the marauding parties of Mexicans. The Mexican Character is so well known to the Americans that we never know when to trust them, these parties roam through the country calling themselves Federals, we know nothing of the truth of these statements, and yet the Citizens of our County are to suffer for the depredations committed by those parties— If your Excellency could advise any means whereby the authorities of this County could demand of those parties something showing where they belong and what business made them here so they might travel the country as our Citizens, certainly our County would feel herself guarded from those apprehensions of danger that daily occur. I shall let the matter rest, without further encroaching upon your Excellency's time, by requesting a speedy answer to this communication.

I am very respectfully, Your Obt Servt
(Signed) Benj. F. Neal.
Chief Justice B. C.

To His Excellency
Mirabeau B. Lamar.
Austin City Texas—

P. Potter
Soliciting the appoint of Consul for Miss—

Natchez July 7th 1840.

Dr Sir,

If you recollect I mentioned to you during my recent visit to the Republic the necessity of the appointment of a Consul for Mississippi. and also that I would accept if appointed: on my return I mentioned to some of the members of the Natchez bar that yr Excellency would make the appointment providing you were advised of the necessity of having one— they immediately proffered to sign a memorandum such as I transmit to you. Many of the members of the Adams County Bar are absent consequently their names cannot be procured, I consider the number I send to be sufficient. Should you make the appointment any instructions you may think fit to send me by way of Public documents, laws, maps, or private instructions from under yr own hand: would be thankfully recd— I had quite a pleasant trip over. I hope your health is good— God grant that you may soon recover from that disease that has so long afflicted you.

This commission [illegible] I reside in [illegible] some [illegible] documents I am [illegible] to many [illegible] should you want my assistance in publishing [illegible] they are ready to [illegible] helping [illegible]

To His Excellency
M. B. Lamar.
Prest of Repc of Texas—

I am sir yr
humble Servt
(Signed) Lyman Potter

Resignation as Commissioner [illegible]

Nacogdoches July 28th 1840.

His Excellency the President
of the Republic of Texas—

I hereby most respectfully tender you my resignation as "General Commissioner East of Brazos River" appointed under the act entitled "an act providing for the detection of fraudulent Land Certificates,"

passed January 29th 1840. which you please accept; and at the same time would earnestly recommend for your appointment to the Comd. Gen. and Robt. H. Smith of Montgomery County to fill not only the vacancy occasioned by my resignation but also that of Mr. C. Lumpkins, having entire confidence in the ability of said Gen. and Smith to complete the examination of the different records of said commissioners East of Sangre as well as the entire faith in their integrity and firmness to discharge the duties and requisitions of said law. I take a pleasure in thus recommending them as eligible persons to fill said vacancies.

Very Respectfully
(Signed) C. R. Rothe.

J. Grimes resignation as Chf Justice

Mont. Aug. 2d 1840.

His Excellency
M. B. Lamar.

I beg respectfully to tender to your Excellency my resignation of the Office of Chief Justice of Montgomery County.

The friends of Leonidas Saunders & myself will recommend him as a suitable person to fill the Office. Mr. Saunders is a man of considerable legal acquirements and of temperate & moral habits. The fitness of several other Gentlemen has been discussed and their claims urged by their respective friends, but I think it probable that no other will be recommended to your Excellency for the appointment as all appear to acquiesce in the appointment of Mr. Saunders.

I take the liberty to assure you of my high esteem and best wishes for your health and welfare, and for the prosperity of our adopted country.

(Signed) Peter Grimes.

Received 14th of August 1840.

R. Mondell relative to Horses stolen by W. States Indians.

Office of Secretary
Secretary of State
of the Republic of Texas

Dear Sir:

Sometime in July last I had the honor of receiving your favor of my last, relative to the claim of Camden Elliott of Texas for horses stolen by the United States Indians immediately after receiving of which I proceeded to take the testimony therein detailed, but owing to the very many failures of our mail I have not been able to forward it at an earlier period than the present but have enclosed with the claims which may be destined by your Government; and accept of my thanks for the very kind attention given them, we have nothing of importance here, abundant and entire health are to be seen in every direction in the Country.

(Signed) D. Rose

L.
Ewing
relative to
F. Johnson
paying taxes
on one hundred
leagues of land
Claim

Liberty County August 29th 1840.

To the Hon.
The Secretary of State.

Sir,

Francis W. Johnson an citizen of this County, who is now, and has been absent from the Govt for the last fifteen months, did in the year 1838 give me to the Tax Collector One hundred leagues of land, the same being part of a purchase made of the State of Coahuila & Texas by the Sd Johnson, Peebles and others - you are aware that the Govt of Texas declared that, and similar purchases void; therefore I think that the mere circumstance of Mr Johnson having given me lands to which he had no valid claim should not be a sufficient pre=text for the Govt to compel him to pay the taxes thereon, pe=cuniarily when the Govt is aware of the fact and claims Sd lands himself. Should it be your opinion that it is unjust that Mr Johnson should be compelled to pay the tax on those lands, you will confer a favor by directing the Collector B. W. Harden (who has now an execution against the goods & chattels of Sd Johnson) to desist from the collection of them. I think this a peculiarly hard case as the personal property of Mr Johnson will have to be sacrificed - all his right, title & claim to the hundred leagues of land would not sell in this County for as much as would pay the taxes on one acre.

Respectfully
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Geo. Ewing

K. Walker
relative to
surveying
school lands -
&c

Columbus Sept 1st 1840.

To Ans. Waples Esqr
Comr.

In answer to your communication dated 15th August 1840 in relation to the survey of School lands for the County of Colorado in accordance with the Act approved Jany 26th 1839, I have conferred with the Surveyor of the County, who states that he was not instructed by the County Court to make the Surveys indicated by the law, as he conceives by Sections 1st and 2nd of said law he could only act in obedience to the order of the Court. I will lay the matter before the October term of the Court, no action has heretofore been had on the subject. I came into office at the adjournment of Congress (1840) and my attention was first drawn to the subject by your letter referred to. In conclusion, I will mention that the lands still vacant in this County are worthless as reported by the present and preceding County Surveyors. If circumstances allow it I will use every effort in my official to have the quantum of land surveyed for the County where it can be done to advantage -

Your Obt Servt
(Signed) Kinder Walker.

H. W. Augustine resignation as Comr to investigate land offices

San Augustine 5th Sept. 1840

To Hon. Ashur S. Lipscomb
Sec for.

I hereby tender to the President, through you, my resignation of commissioner to investigate the different Land Offices East of the Brazos River, by authority of an Act of last Congress.

It is impossible for me to undergo the fatigues of travelling, as well as the confinement necessary in order to discharge the duties of the office, in my situation.

Be pleased to accept assurances of my high regard & consideration.—

Your Obt. Humble Servt
Henry W. Augustine—

M. Martin relative to the approval of the bond of Co. Surveyors

Richmond September 11th 1840.

To the Hon.
Secretary of State,
Sir,

On the first Monday of the present month Joseph H. Barnard was elected County Surveyor for Fort Bend County, by the land law of 1837. The bond and securities were to be approved by the board of Land Commissioners.— the law of 1840 on the same subject does not change the mode of taking the bond and approving the securities.

The land board no longer exists and the law, failing to point to the authority, who shall now perform those duties I have undertaken to perform them my-self. I enclose you the bond by the present mode after having had the same recorded as the law requires. Should the Department consider this the proper course, then all is well— if otherwise please consider the act as not done— and have the goodness to instruct me, as to the proper course of proceeding in the premises.

Very respectfully yrs Obt Servt
Ripley Martin Chief Justice
H. B. County—
(Signed)

G. W. Terrell accepting the appointt of Distt Judge 5th Judicial Distt.

Nacogdoches Texas, Septr 12th 1840.

Dear Sir.

A few days since I received a commission from your office appointing me Judge of the 5th District of the Republic.— Enclosed you will receive the evidence of my qualification preparatory to my entering upon the discharge of the duties of the Office— which you will please consider an acceptance of the same.

I shall consider this high evidence of confidence in an entire stranger, reposed by the Executive, as imposing an additional obligation (to other high incentives) upon me to exert all the powers of an humble so to acquit myself of this delicate and responsible trust, as to meet the reasonable expectations of the community in which I live, but also to command the approbation of the Executive, and confidence he has thus reposed in a stranger, of whom he has known any thing, except by report

I take this occasion, Sir, to tender to you, and other friends who I have named, exerted their friendly influence in my behalf, my very high regards - and through yourself to his Excellency the President. The very high respect with which I am his, and

Hon. A. S. Lipscomb
City of Austin.

Your Obt Servt
G. M. Turner

O. N. Conger
relative to
printing the
laws - and
payment of
the same

Austin Sept 26th 1840

Dear Sir.

Enclosed you will receive a bill of lading for one thousand Vol Laws of 4th Congress, we have them all completed but was unable to send them up by this conveyance, as it was impossible to get them packed in season - the mail this week will carry all the Vol that are to be sent from here to the Chief Justice. I have sent our a/c up to Mr Eldridge & trust that there will be no error thrown in the way of settlement. The a/c for the printing is made out as per agreement - when I last visited Austin & as per legal decision of both Judges Hemphill and the Hon.ble Secretary of State, we are in great want of the money & trust that it will be paid without any further delay, the laws have all been published in the Telegraph that has been printed in the Gazette. The remainder of the laws will be sent by best conveyance.

Hon -
Secty of State.

Yours respt -
O. N. Conger.

D. J. Toler
relative to
surveying 3
leagues of
land =

Washington 15 September 1840

Sir

Your communication of the 15th of August I received on the day of the Election the 7th Inst the day upon which the term of service of the County Surveyor expired. I spoke to the Surveyor elect (late Deputy Surveyor of the County) on the subject of having three leagues of land surveyed. He informed me that he believed that there were not three good leagues vacant in the County. I am not able to judge personally of this matter, never having been enabled to see a map of the County. in fact I doubt whether there has ever been made, so soon as I can learn further on the subject. I will communicate with your Department.

To the
Hon. Secretary of State.

respectfully
Your Obt Servt
Daniel J Toler.

Collins
relative to
locating &
surveying
lands

To Sir Hon.
the Secretary of State

Sir, last mail brought me a communication from your Department, directing my attention to the subject of the locating & surveying the school lands &c. I immediately addressed the County Surveyor on the subject; a copy of his reply you will find on another page -- The object of your wishes I have heretofore tried to accomplish, but without success - I have been informed, that last Congress made some additional provisions for the

furtherance of this object, but as I am entirely ignorant of their nature & details, I shall have to request that further information & instructions on the Subject, as you may deem it expedient to furnish.

I am with much respect &c &c

Crockett. Sept. 16th 1840.

John Bottom.
Chief Justice of Houston County.

Austin D.C. Sept. 19th 1840.

G.W. Smyth praying the appointment of J.P. Pulsifer Collector port of Sabine

Sir.

I would recommend Joseph P. Pulsifer, as a proper person to fill the Office of Collector of the Port of Sabine; he is capable of performing the duties of the Office, and is strictly an honest man; Mr. Pulsifer resides in Beaumont.

Do his Excellency.
Mo. B. Lamar.

Very respectfully Yours.
Geo. W. Smyth.

Auston Sept. 25th 1840.

F. Moore relative to an article published in the Star or Telegraph

Sir.

Your letter containing an interrogatory relative to an Editorial article published in the Star or Telegraphs concerning Genl Hunt and the boundary question has been received.

In reply I can only state that no article has been published either in the Star or Telegraph to the effect that the Government had approved the measures of Genl H. The only article published in relation was written by Mr. Fitch during my absence at the North.

I suspect the article to which you allude, was published in the Ems or in a Galveston Paper.

Mr Joseph Mapes
State Department

Respectfully &c.
Francis Moore Jr.

Galveston September 28th 1840.

J.H. Brown relative to the capture, or recapture of Cynthia

"Friend Lamar

Sir. By the last mail I received the Austin City Gazette containing the letter of Mr. C. W. M. Upshaw, U.S. agent of Mos. Price the Chickasaw Indians, containing an account of the purchase by by Comanches & Chickasaw" of Thomas Pierce, a white prisoner among the Indians Comanches.

Having accidentally met with an Uncle of this boy last Fall, I heard him relate the circumstances of the massacre of the Pierce family, and will simply inform you what the boy's relatives are. His brother, Benjamin Pierce, and his Sister Jane, who is married to Mr. Jos. T. Mapes, and Mr. Isaac Pierce his uncle live in Jackson County, 15 miles above Texana, the nearest of the "La Baca Post Office"

Any information which may be desired concerning the can be obtained by addressing Mr. J. Addison White at Lacoste.

I am Your obedient Servant
John Henry P.
Lacoste

Sam Moff
Letter to the
Relative of
John Price
Prisoner=

Texana Septr 29th 1840.

Dear Sir-

Your of the 16th came to hand bringing the cheering intelligence of my Wife's Brother having been purchased in by the Indian Agent of the U. S at Fort Towson. My Brother-in-law Benjamin Pierce left here some time about the last of June to go to Fort Towson having heard that there was a boy of that name brought in there. but we have heard nothing since from either them, and had despaired of the news, but I think it likely Benjamin has reached there ere this time and got this brother! but lest he fail I should be glad you would be so kind as to write to William Bryan the Consul at New Orleans that the Relatives of the Boy are living in Jackson County near Texana and would be glad of any information that may be had relative to the boy until such time as they may be able to possess themselves of him

Allow me to assure you of the gratitude I feel towards you and His Excellency the President for your kindness and trouble you have taken in this matter-

Yours with the highest regard
Sam Moff.

Hon Joseph Nasby-

A. M. M. Upshaw
relative to the
recapture of
John Price
from Comanches —

Chickasaw Agency near Ft Towson,
June 15th 1840.

Sir-

I have the honor to inform you, that one of the principal men of the Chickasaws, went last winter on a trading expedition to the Comanches, where he saw several white persons, all of which he was anxious to get, that he might return them to their country, on account of his funds being low, before he saw them he was only able to get one, he is a boy a bout ten years old whose name Thomas Pierce, his Father name was Sam Pierce, his Father, Mother, one Brother and Sister was killed by the Cadoe Indians while moving from near a Mr. Scotts Store to the interior of Texas, he hid himself under the waggon, but he was soon found he received a slight wound on his head, but they determined not to kill him, he says it has been near two years since he was taken, he also says that he has a brother in Texas by the name of Benjamin Pierce, and a Sister whose name is Jane, he thinks they are both married, he is very anxious to return to his country and relations, I have sent for him and will take him to my House-- In name of the Chickasaw that got him from the Comanches is Is-ti-u-ka-Tubby since he has had him he has been very well treated and appears to be very greatful for the kindness that he has received, when he was found he was naked and poor.

Is-ti-u-ka-Tubby, wishes to know if he would go among the Comanches and get all the prisoners that they have belonging to the Republic of Texas, what would he get for it? he says that prisoners are women and boys all of which are in a

wretched condition?

You will please address me so soon as you receive this with sentiments of the highest regard & esteem I have the honor to be yr. ob. st.

A. M. M. Upshaw W. S. agent of the Chickasaws

To His Excellency
M. B. Lamar, President
of the Republic of Texas

My address
Col. A. M. M. Upshaw W. S. Agent
of the Chickasaws
Fort Towson Ark.

T. A. Dexter
acceptance of the appointt. of Consul-Port of Boston

Boston June 5th 1840

To The Hon. Abner S. Lipscomb
Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas,

Sir.

Having accepted the commission of Consul of the Republic of Texas - for the port of Boston - yesterday - which His Excellency the President has honored me - and having applied to the Charge of the Republic - at Washington for my exequatur - I now have the honor, to enclose to your Department - a Bond executed in due form and remain

Most Respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
Thomas A. Dexter

J. Taylor -
relative to his bringing to Texas Captain British negroes &c

Barbados July 28th 1840.

Sir,

I take the liberty of calling your attention to certain matters which were brought under your notice on the early part of the present year by the Governor of this Island through Captain Hamilton under a commission from the British Government, respecting some Coloured Servants who arrived in Texas on the 6th December 1835. and whose indentures were disposed of by me to certain Gentlemen of Texas in May 1836. I consider it unnecessary to enter into details, as you have, no doubt informed yourself fully of the transaction before to day. I have become the victim of a prosecution which has been instituted against me for transferring these persons at Texas, or for their being dealt with as slaves." It appears that the Foundation of this charge is the fact that these transfers bear a later date than the Declaration of Independence of Texas, and the presumption that this Declaration had made slaves of all Coloured persons in Texas at the time held by Indenture, and further substantiated by Mr. Joseph Gregsby's deposition to the effect "that these Coloured people were introduced to Texas as free persons, but under the New Constitution of 1836 they become slaves." I was myself under the same false impression from the time of the Congress in October 1836 until I saw the respecting coloured persons dated June 1837. - I trust that you will once Sir, and be willing to lay down this mistake in the meaning and intention of the Declaration of Independence, the consequence of which is equally unjust to the good fame of the Republic, as they are. I trust Sir that you will now allow this blot to attach.

of the Country, over which you at present preside, – that you will feel the propriety of adopting such measures as may be necessary to wipe off from it the stigma which this incorrect interpretation of a fundamental part of your Constitution seems likely to affix to it.– If not so, I would urge it on your consideration, that by this affair Texas has been brought into a friendly contact with the English Government in a manner which has occasioned her to appear to much advantage, and in which there has been throughout no other than the most honorable proceeding, and which although they are now made to appear interfering by the misin=terpretation of your laws, yet it is in your own power to rectify this error in the fairest manner, and by so doing not only relieve an Inno=cent individual from injury and opprobrium, but also bring forward to the English Government in the most favorable light the just enact=ment of your Republic.–

If on these or any other considerations, you feel disposed to exercise your power in the rectifying of this mistake, I would take the liberty of suggesting, that you do issue a Commission of Enquiry into this affair (whose name I omit) were at any time during their stay in Texas, held 'de jure' or 'de facto' for or as slaves or were so entered and recorded,– and also that you make or cause to be made on the part of Texas, a Declaration or Protest, against this erroneous acceptation of your Constitutional enactments., and forward it together with report of your Commissioner, to the Right Honorable Lord John Russell, Her Brittanic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, at the Colonial Office, Downing Street London:– under whose notice this affair is at present lying:– and also, (if I may be pardoned the boldness of the request) that you will furnish my agent in London, with a similar Document or a certified copy, to the direction attached hereto, to whom also any other communication relative to this affair may be forwarded.–

In thus addressing you on this subject, I must be allowed to claim the privilege of necessity, and hope that you will be pleased to admit this plea for what may otherwise ap=pear improper or presuming, and, I have the honor to be

(Independence on your Favor)

Most Humbly and respectfully

Your Obt Servt

John Taylor

To,

His Excellency

Mr. B. Exmor.

The following are the names of the colored persons who are mentioned in the Indictment:–

April Cashby, transferred to Judge William Hardin.
William Gensil, do to William Moore.
Edward Whitaker do to Dello,
Henry Smoot, left by me with Joseph Wrigsby Esquire
Samuel Redman do with Dello.
William Thomas left by Mr. Jones with Dello.

The following is the address of my agent in London–

William Baron Esqr
4 – Upper Charles Street,
Westminster – London.

Austin 10th Sept. 1840.

J. Morgan relative to the Claim of Swartwout against Texas.

My Dear Judge,

I wrote to His Excellency Genl Lamar on the subject of Genl Swartwout's claim, agst the Govt of Texas, by Doctr Moore, who told me, to day, that he handed my letter to you, and is most certain that the Prest rec^d it through you, as I have rec^d no answer to my communication. I am fearful the Prest is sick - for I feel assured from wt passed between us at a private interview at Galveston, that he would not have neglected the matter on his arrival at Austin if something like sickness had not prevented it. If you recollect, I had some conversation with you, also, on that subject. If nothing further can be allowed, pray try & see that the amt of the recpts is arranged for, as there can be no dispute about that. May I ask the favor of your friendly influence in behalf of poor Swartwout - for I assure you "he is poor indeed". I have it from the best authority that he is really in want in France! If I am not mistaken in Prest Lamar's heart, I feel satisfied that he will take pleasure in doing this act of justice to Genl S: for Genl Lamar is well aware of the many services rendered this Country by Genl S. by "Speech, press, pen" & purse at the darkest hour. - You will oblige me to drop him a line & say what may in your opinion may be depended on.

With very respect, Dr Sir,
Yr friend & Servt
J. Morgan

Hon.
A. S. Lipscomb

J. Murphy relative to contest of an Election &c

Republic of Texas
County of Fannin

Whereas a return was made to me from the several election precincts of said County of an Election held on the 7th Sept 1840. - and from the said returns it appeared that Daniel McCartagen was elected County Surveyor for said County, and the Election having been contested by J. G. Jonett of said County on the following grounds -

1st That the said Election was illegally conducted inasmuch as at one precinct there were not a sufficient number of Judges &c of said Election.

2nd That the returns of said Election were illegally made inasmuch as the law requires the returns to be made on oath by one of the Judges or Clerks of said Election at every precinct.

3rd Many votes were polled which were illegal, the votes having failed to have their names recorded on the tax list of said County on account of minority.

4th. Votes were practised by various persons in said Election, and in various ways - and from evidence had thereon in the presence of the parties on this day it appears that according to the first charge that at one Election precinct there were only two Judges of said Election.

Secondly. That the returns of three other precincts were by one person Officer, one of which returns was not sealed, and that neither of the returning Officers swore on the delivery of the returns.

Thirdly. That there were several names on the polls of said Election who had refused to have their names

Date list of said counts on account of Priority of entry - that the polls of election at the precincts were opened after two O'Clock in the forenoon and closed at four O'Clock in the afternoon of said day thereby preventing two citizens votes from being taken -

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of Office this 22nd day of September A.D. 1840.

C. Murphy Chief Justice O.M.L.T.

Hon.
Secretary of State

A. J. Fowler relative to Surveying School Lands &c

Lacreosse Red River County
Oct 26th A.D. 1840.

A communication from the Department of State bearing date 15th August last, Directed to me, in relation to the School Lands of Red River County, arrived by last mail - In reply - none of the School Lands have been Surveyed by order of the County Surveyor - But immediately upon the receipt of the Supplementary Act on the System of General Education - I, in conjunction with the associate Justices of the County Court, proceeded to commit the Surveying of said Lands in charge of Trusty Deputy Surveyor of this County who informed me a few days since that he had made some valuable Selections and Surveyed the same for that purpose. He is bound under the penalty of losing his wages to have all the Lands Surveyed by the 25th December - From a knowledge of his character I have no doubt that the work will be performed by that time - Washington S. McLeod is the Surveyor who has undertaken the work.

Can you not have an improvement made in the System of Education in the ensuing Congress -

Your Obt. Servant
A. J. Fowler
Chf Justice Red River County.

To the Hon.
Abner S. Lipscomb.
Sec of State -

G. W. Miles relative to surveying school lands &c

Liberty Oct 1840.

Sir.

Your communication under date of August 15th making inquiry, in regard to the Surveying of three Leagues of land under the "Act appropriating certain lands for the establishment of a General System of Education" - Was duly rec^d and I embrace the first opportunity since my recovery from a severe illness, to reply to the same -

Upon inquiry of the Co. Surveyor he informs me the reason of the lands not having been Surveyed in the Co. is in consequence of the refusal of the Deputy Surveyor to run off the land at the fixed price by Government - the same not being sufficient to pay the necessary expenses of hands & provisions - the County is bound under the law for the expenses incurred in Surveying: I shall endeavor at the next meeting of the Board of Com^rs of the Roads & Revenue, to have a sufficient appropriation made, so that the lands can be selected, surveyed & field notes returned as required by law -

Very respectfully
Geo. W. Miles

Hon Abner S. Lipscomb
Sec of State

D. Murphree
resignation
as Chf Justice

Victoria Oct 4th 1840.

Sir—

I have with respectfully offer you my resignation of the Commission of Chief Justice for the County of Victoria, which you were pleased to confer on me in July last; and most earnestly request Your Excellency's acceptance of the same.

With the highest regard I have the honor to be Yr Ex'cy's most Obt Servt

His Excellency
M. B. Lamar
President

David Murphree.
Chf Justice Victoria County.

A. M. Davis
relative to locating & surveying
School lands

San Augustine Oct 14th 1840

Sir—

I rec'd your letter (bearing without date) a few days since in relation to the issuing locating & surveying of three Leagues of Land for this County, in accordance with "an act appropriating certain lands for the establishment of a General System of Education," approved Jan'y 26th 1839.

I regret exceedingly to say, that through the negligence of the Board of Land Commissioners, acting under & by the authority of the aforesaid act, they have not been issued. I have been acting in the capacity of Chief Justice for this County, since the latter part of February last:— So you will perceive that said act had expired before I went into office, consequently their not being issued, could not have been my fault. Since I have been acting as Chief Justice I have endeavored faithfully to discharge the duties which devolved upon me as such; for I hold it as a principle, that whenever an individual accepts of the appointment of an Office, that it is his bounden duty to discharge faithfully the duties appertaining thereto. But it is too often the case that Officers neglect their official business.

I request that you use your influence with Congress to have them pass a special act for the benefit of this County, granting to it three Leagues of Land. to which number of leagues it was entitled under the aforesaid Act, in order that it may enjoy alike benefits with other Counties of this Republic; for it is to be hoped that the negligence of Officers will not be the means of depriving of one of the lands, to which we as a County, would have been otherwise entitled.

It is truly desirous that a General System of Education should be established throughout our new & rising Republic; whereby useful knowledge may be disseminated & proper principles inculcated; for upon this the perpetuity of institutions greatly depends.

Most respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. M. Davis
Chief Justice &c.

Hon.
Secretary of State.

Mr. Smyth
resignation as
Agt. la Fun
Boundary line

Fort Gibson
Oct 13th 1840

The peculiar circumstances under which my appointment was made, did not allow to the Executive, the propriety of choice, which the world otherwise have supposed. I should by tendering my resignation to the Executive, did I suppose the appointment already made, to interfere in the slightest degree, with his right of nominating to the Senate, the person, in his opinion, best qualified to fulfil the duties of the Office. In addition to this I feel no wish to remain in whose welfare my exertions are necessary. Our salary (if it is to be in prominent notis of the Government) so far from bearing any thing like worth to effects, will not so much as defray necessary expenses; Other considerations have induced me to resign the Office which I hold on the boundary line: I shall give the reasons, as sufficient, to justify to the Executive, the step, which under the circumstances I felt it my duty to take.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
Geo. W. Smyth

Hon. A. L. Lipscomb
Sec of State

J. R. Reid
praying the
appointment of
W. W. Swain
Dist. Attorney

Mobile, Oct 10th 1840

Respected Sir

Having the office of District Attorney incompatible with my duties as a practitioner in the Civil side of the Court, I resigned it into the hands of this Honor Judge Shipp on the 13th Sept. my commission. I return you my sincere thanks & gratitude for the distinction which has been accorded me by those friendship and unwarrying kindness & only regret that sense of private duty compels the step now taken. It would afford me pleasure my dear General, if the commission could be transferred to my friend William W. Swain Esq. of the firm of Andrews & Swain. He is honest, capable, energetic, and one of your warmest friends - with him I am intimately acquainted.

I am your sincerely & truly
John R. Reid

To His Excellency
President Van Buren

T. S. Stubblefield
relative to the
moral of-
Coshatta
Alabama
Indians

Montgomery Ala Oct 1840

I have to the honor to inform you that the Innocent Chiefs of the Coushattas & Alabama Tribes of Indians, certain instructions dated 2nd May 1840 in relation to my commission as Indian Agent for the Coushattas and the Alabama Tribes of Indians, for a satisfactory account thereof I refer you to a copy of the said instructions, I presume on file in your Department. On the subject of my agency I have to say that in pursuance of my instructions in the early part of the season-

I selected the lands intended for the Indians and partly completed the surveys for the Cashallas, but owing to the high water at the time we could then proceed no farther, and since owing to sickness and partly to negligence on the part of Mr Sewell the surveyor, I have not yet been able to finish the surveys. However I have marked the Alabama Tribes on their respective lands as designated in the commencement, and they all appear to be satisfied with their situations. Mr Sewell the surveyor has lately promised me that so soon as his health will permit he will come up and unite with me and finish this business. Should any thing happen to prevent his coming agreeable to promise, I should like to be furnished with such forms as will enable me to go on immediately and finish the surveys in time to make a return thereof to your Department before the adjournment of the present Congress. At all events I hope to be able to complete this engagement in a few weeks.

I have the honor to be
Your Most Respectfully
Thomas G. Stubblefield
Indian Agent

Hon.
Abner S. Lipscomb

G.W. Miles
Relative to Mr Taylor's selling the indentures of negroes &c

Washington Jan. 6th 1840

Sir

Upon examination of the papers received, in the 1st Circuit I found a copy of the Original contract entered into between Mr Taylor & Wm Moore, also the affidavit of A.B. Martin. As soon as my defence shall have been duly forwarded by the day mail, other testimony which can be easily obtained, going to show that only the indentures of the Negroes were sold by Mr Taylor. The Hon Mr Bright the member from Jefferson now in Austin, is knowing to all the circumstances attending the claim exercised by Mr Taylor over said Negroes.

In haste
Yours respectfully
Geo. W. Miles
Chief Justice T.C.

Hon Joseph Waples
Actg Sec'y of State

A. Millard
Resignation as Chief Justice & recommendation of D.S.A. Millard as successor

City of Austin Nov. 5th 1840

Sir

Being engaged in the City with the intention of spending some time in Austin, I beg leave respectfully to tender you my resignation as Chief Justice of Jasper County, and as it is a matter of some importance to Government to have a man appointed to fill that office of undoubted integrity, well qualified, and a resident citizen at the County seat, I would respectfully recommend to your Honor Doctor D.S. Alex. Millard a man possessing all those qualifications, and would be much to you for to recommend him to the Honorable Congress to fill the office, a strong petition will be presented in his favor signed by Officers of the Courts as well as all the Government officers &c

with most of the respectable planters & Merchants Resident Citizens of that place. I mention these facts knowing that a petition will be presented for Doctor Lawhorn a respectable gentleman residing 12 or 14 Miles distant from the County Seat who if appointed could not perform the duties of Probate Judge and Notary Public while residing so far off without a great inconvenience to the Citizens in general, and knowing it to be the desire of the principal Citizens of that County that Doctor Millard should be Elected, I have taken the liberty of troubling you with the foregoing Statement of facts

With Sentiments of respect
Your Obt Servt
Henry Millard. C.J.J.C.

To the Hon
Secretary of State.

Wm Bryan
despatches
forwarded
&c

Consulate of the Republic of Texas
New Orleans Nov 25th 1840

Sir-
I have the honor to acknowledge the rec^t of the communications from your Department of the 17th & 24th ult^o which came to hand per last trip of Steam Packet New York. The dispatches addressed to the Right Honorable Lord John Russell & to William Barron Esqr. London, were forwarded by the British Consul of this Port on the 18th Inst^. Your instructions regarding the Tuscian Boy purchased by the Chickasaw Chief at Fort Towson from the Comanches by the name of Thomas Pierce will be strictly complied with by

Your Obt Servant
Wm Bryan
Consul

Hon A.S. Upshur
Secretary of State.

x J Fowler
el above in the
scape of one
dam Beaty
om Sheriff
t R.R. Co-

Clarksville Nov 28th 1840.

Dear Sir-
This is to inform you that One Adam Beaty broke custody & escaped from the hands of W. L. Richards Deputy Sheriff of Red River County in the night of 26th Inst (as appears from the return) having been arrested by him by virtue of a Warrant from under my hand on a charge of murder, having committed the same by killing Dr. Aaron Powell a highly respectable citizen of this County and a useful member of Society as a Physician & a man.

The deed was committed in the bosom of his own family who had assembled around the social fireside immediately after supper, surrounded by his family & friends, when he was shot from a crack in the house. A well connected chain of circumstances immediately convinced the Public mind of Beaty's guilt, he is of notorious bad character. Adam Beaty is a man about 40 years of age, thick set, heavy built, about 5 feet 8 or 10 inches in height, of dark complexion with perhaps a few scattering gray hairs in his head, nothing remarkable about his person except a down cast look. He left his family in this County.

I have made this communication hoping that you will avail yourself of the law that authorizes you to

offer a reward of $1000 for the apprehension of the fellow, and to be delivered into custody of the Sheriff of this county, that the ends of Justice may be attained as an example to the vicious & as a protection to the peaceful citizens of our County.

P.S. It is supposed that Beaty will take refuge in Texas, Arkansaw or Missouri.

To His Excellency
Mirabeau B. Lamar.
Pres. of the Republic of Texas.

With respect, I remain your
Obt. Servant
A. J. Fowler, Chf Justice, Red River Co.

T.G. Forster transmitting Drafts &c

War Department
City of Austin, Nov. 28th 1840.

Sir.

A note from your Department of the 26th Inst. has been received; and in compliance with the Joint Resolutions of the present Congress, on behalf therein, I have the honor, in accordance with instructions from the Hon Sec. of War, to transmit herewith two drafts — one upon the Secretary of the Treasury for One Thousand, One hundred and forty three 26/100 Dollars, and the other upon the Cashier of the Merchants Bank, New Orleans, for Six Thousand, One hundred and thirty three 38/100 Dollars —

These the amounts compose the surplus of the original deposite made in the Merchants Bank New Orleans, and now held subject to the Draft of the Hon. Secretary of War.

I have the honor to be very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Thos. Gales Forster,
Chf Clk Dept. of War.

To Hon.
Abner S. Lipscomb.
Secretary of State.

J.M. Crugar relative to printing the Laws in the Castillian Language, payment &c

Central Quarter 7th 1840.

Sir —

In answer to your note of this date relative to the printing of the laws of the Republic, in the Castillian language. I will remark that about 200 pages of said work have been completed in accordance with my contract dated Dec. 18th 1839. The cause why said work has not previously been completed is owing to the fact, that the translator has been unable to furnish the copy — and my printers have often been compelled to remain idle several successive days for the want of the copy — The amount of promissory notes I have received for said work will be found in your Department. I am unable to furnish the exact amount, as my accounts relating to this subject are at Houston — You will recollect that the contract was one and a half per cent less than the bid of Major Whiting, and in par funds or its equivalent — The amount still due is about $200 par funds — the amount requisite for its completion — I shall be unable to ascertain until the translator shall furnish the remaining copy. I think however it will not exceed $1000 Dollars par funds, the amt is to include folding, stitching & all other expenses — In conclusion I will remark that if the work shall not exceed the hundred pages and the copy should be furnished in season it may be completed in three weeks —

Hon. Secretary of State

Respy
J. M.

Camp on Bois d' Arc. Dec 1st 1840.

W. Hunt
relative to
College and
Seminary
Lands —

Sir,

On the 25th Oct last I wrote to you in regard to the College & Seminary Lands, fearing that that report might have failed to reach its destination, I herewith transmit you copy of the same

Hon Abner S. Lipscomb
Secretary of State —

Respectfully &c
Wm H. Hunt

At Mrs. Kimbell, Sulphur Fork
Oct. 25th 1840.

Wm H. Hunt
relative to the
location of
Forty Leagues
of College &
Seminary
Lands

"Sir,

I have the honor to report that in obedience to your instructions, I have selected the Forty Leagues of College & Seminary Lands, on or near the route of the Military Road from Red River to Austin, between the Brazos & Trinity Rivers, I employed Mr Scott a Deputy Surveyor of Robertson County to survey a Selection of 9 or 10 Leagues on the East side of the Brazos - the Survey is now Completed, — The balance of the Forty Leagues are located on the waters of the Trinity & on the West side - I shall have them surveyed in the course of four or five weeks - These Surveys on Trinity are of a First Rate quality, well watered & timbered. -

I have the honor &c
Wm H. Hunt.
Surveyor."

Hon. Abner S. Lipscomb
Secretary of State.

Do.

Since that time I have been on Trinity but owing to danger from Indians, & duties as Engineer of the Military Road I was prevented from making the Surveys - I shall go out there in a few weeks where I will make arrangements to have them Surveyed.

The Selections are secured to the Govt by an Entry which I made of them with the County Surveyor of Robertson County - They are Splendid Lands - better than the Lands in the Vicinity of Austin

I have the honor to remain
Respectfully your Obt Servt
Wm H. Hunt.
Surveyor.

County of Jasper
Dec 14th 1840

Geo. W. Smyth
relative to
running the
boundary line
&c &c

Sir,

Mr. H. R. Bee arrived at my house yesterday; by whom I had the honor to receive your dispatch, of 28th Nov; I received by Mr Bee the draft for Six Thousand three hundred and thirty three 33/100 dollars, and also seven hundred & sixty dollars in par funds: I shall depart on tomorrow for our camp at the 32°, and from thence, (if Judge Overton should not be there), I shall proceed directly to this house or to wherever he may be found: — I was in Natchitoches La, on the 17th ult, I learned that Mr Young Secretary to the U. S. Commission passed through that place only three days previous, he brought information that Maj. Graham & Mr Bee (U. S. Engineers) were engaged on the N. Eastern boundary, but might be expected in a short time, Judge Overton's arrival was every day expected

Very respectfully your obt Servt
Geo. H. T. [illegible]

Abner S. Lipscomb

W. S. Jones resignation as Dist Judge 2nd J. Distn.

Austin, Decr 15th 1840.

Sir,

I herewith tender you my resignation as Judge of the Second Judicial District of this Republic.

I was elected to fill a vacancy of one year, which expired, and I am desirous that the Honorable Congress shall have the opportunity of selecting anew the person in their judgement the most suitable to fill the Office of Judge of the Second Circuit.

To His Excellency
The President of the Republic of Texas.

Respectfully
William S. Jones.

Cooke & Anderson praying for pardon of E. Seiders &c

To His Excellency
David G. Burnet.

The petition of the undersigned respectfully shows these facts, that at the term of the District Court, which has been held for the County of Travis, during the present month Edward Seiders was tried on an Indictment for permitting Gaming to be carried on in his house, and found guilty by the Jury acting under wrongful instructions from the Bench.

The testimony which was produced to the Jury was substantially the following,

"That Edward Seiders was the owner of a House in this City, and that whilst he owned it gaming was carried on in the Second Story of it with his knowledge.

"It was then proved clearly that the Second Story of the House had been rented out long before the Gaming commenced, and that the passage to it was separate from the lower part of the building only one apartment of which was occupied by said Seiders, and also, that said Seiders had reserved no control over the rented apartment."

On the above testimony the Court charged the Jury, that if they believed that Seiders knew of the existence of Gambling in his house, although at the same it was rented out, and had been long before without a reservation of any control over it during the duration of the lease, still they were bound to render a verdict against him.

Since the above decision has been made said Seiders convicted; several other causes have been tried, where the facts proved were exactly similar, and the Court has in each case charged directly the reverse; the consequence has been acquittals in all of them.

Your petitioner believes that said Seiders has not had justice done him; and that the laws have been in this instance very unfairly and unequally administered. They only ask from the Courts of his Country to give to him the same measure of justice that has been extended to others placed in similar circumstances. And they therefore conceive that he is justly entitled to claim the protection of the pardoning power of the Nation, and would humbly ask from the remission of the fine which was by the sentence of the Court imposed on him.

Cooke & C.

Hudson — The facts stated in the petitions are as they were proved in Court & the Judge charged the Jury as here stated, which I believe to be the Law. Judge Jones delivered a contra charge & Jurors persons charge with the commission of the same offence when the proof was the same were acquitted.

A. C. Hudson
Act'g Dist. Atty.

Attorney General's Office
Austin, 19th Dec. 1840.

James Webb — Opinion on do — It is my opinion that the Defendants in this case should not have been convicted upon the testimony set out in the foregoing petition — After a man has rented out his House, he has not the control of it, & in contemplation of law, is not the owner during the existence of the lease, although the ultimate right of property remains in him — I therefore think the case presented is one that properly addresses itself to the Executive for relief.

James Webb
Atty Genl.

Petition — praying the a reprieve of — A. M. Weathers for Horse Stealing

La Grange 20th Dec. 1840.

Republic of Texas
County of Fayette

We the undersigned Citizens of the County and Republic aforesaid would respectfully represent to your Excellency, that on or about the first day of May last 1840, one certain man calling himself Alexander M. Weathers was committed to the County Jail of this County upon a charge of Horse Stealing and that said individual (to wit) Alexander M. Weathers was confined and imprisoned in said County Jail until the sitting of the District Court for the County and Republic aforesaid, which was held on the third Monday after the fourth in October 1840. — The Honorable John C. Mills Judge of the Third Judicial District presiding, that the aforesaid Alexander M. Weathers (did consent) was then and there placed upon his trial that the Jury after hearing the evidence for the Republic and the Prisoner did unanimously pronounced in their verdict the aforesaid Alexander M. Weathers "Guilty" of the crime of Horse Stealing as alledged in the indictment made & brought into Court by the Grand Jurors of the County of Fayette and Republic of Texas — That Your Honor then Presiding — John C. Mills did at the aforesaid Term of said Court pronounce the Sentence of the Law on said Alexander M. Weathers — To wit — that he should be remanded to the County Prison and there remain until the fifth day of December next ensuing at which time and date the said Alexander M. Weathers should be taken from the said County Prison by the Sheriff of said County and should be conducted to the Public Whipping Post and then and there receive the number of Thirty Nine lashes upon his bare backs, and further that he should then be remanded to the County Prison and there remain for the time of One year and one day from and after the pronouncing of said sentence on the aforesaid

Alexander M. Mathis

We your petitioners would represent that the Sheriff of said County of Hayette, to wit— William Sabre, did on the morning of the (5th) fifth of December Instant inflicted upon the bare back of said Alexander M. Mathis, Thirty nine lashes and then remanded said prisoner again to the County Jail where is now in close confinement—

Your Petitioners would further respectfully suggest to your Excellency the propriety of extending to this unfortunate man the benefit of a Reprieve believing as we do that he the prisoner has had meted out to him the law in true Justice both to himself and to the Country— We are of opinion that imprisonment will by no means be an inducement to the prisoner to reform, but may be the means of destroying the bitter feeling (if there should be any left) and cause this individual to become more confirmed in crime— We would therefore pray of your Excellency to interpose your leniency and cause said prisoner to be released from further imprisonment which would by no means retard the hand of Justice from reaching each and every person who may violate the "Laws of our Land" but is causing the Government a Continual expense

We would ask of your Excellency a full consideration of this truly unfortunate man's Condition and have to wish that this will be received and acted upon by your Excellency so soon as practicable

With these and the Highest feelings of Esteem for the acting Executive of our country, we are your humble petitioners &c—

— See letter on file for marked —

A. J. Howlin
Relative to the
murder of
A. C. Jouett

Clarksville Red River County.
December 20th 1840

Sir—

Some time since I dispatched a letter to you informing Your Excellency of the Murder of one of our Citizens Aaron C. Jouett by one Adam Beaty, Adam Beaty by Jas. Jackson, with a description of the person of the latter, with the view that you might off G. W. McCarley by = or the Republic's reward for his arrest which I hope Your Excellency has done E. Fields in this— It now becomes my painful duty of informing Your Excellency W. H. Hopkins of another like outrage upon our community—

On the 19th Inst in this place one George W. McCarley took the life of one William Johnson (both citizens of this County) without any just or legal provocation, as I have learned from a number of eye-witnesses of the fact— McCarley was immediately arrested by a warrant, from under the hand of Wm. J. Hamilton a lawful & acting Justice of the peace, by J. H. Wheat a Deputy Sheriff of this County, whose custody, before coming to trial he broke & fled it is supposed to Arkansaw— as Red River, the line between Texas & the U States, bounds this County— Refugees, may in a few hours, beyond our jurisdiction, & elude their just & merited punishment entirely; and the only hope that they may be brought to justice through the instrumentality of your Excellency's reward, I hope you may give our community the benefit of it in this case. may abide the law, whether he be guilty, or not.

The Said McCarty is about 28 or 30 years of age, five feet 8 or 10 Inches in height, heavy built, dark hair, dark eyes & tolerably fair complexion, it is Supposed he has fled to Arkansas.-

I would also here further remark at our March Term of District Court for this County in the present year- the Grand Jury found a "true bill," of murder, against one William H. Hopkins having committed the same upon the body of one Edward Fields both Citizens of this County, in the Summer of 1839. & fled it is supposed, to Arkansas: the process upon said indictment was returned by the Sheriff "non est inventus" The atrocity of this deed cries loudly for Justice, Said Hopkins is about 35 years of age, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, thick set, round shoulded, dark hair, dark eyes, & dark complexion- may your Excellency take this case into consideration.

With great esteem, I remain
Your Obt Servant
A. J. Hawes
Chf Jnt Red River County-

To His Excellency-
Mirabeau B. Lamar.
Prest of the Repc of Texas-

N.B.- McCurley pronounces his name, as he is usually called McKerley- — — — — — — — — A. J. H.-

Alexander Board December 1840.

A. W. M. Jackson) relation to the papers of T. Treat Deceased

Sir,-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th inst, and to state in reply- that the papers of Mr-Treat were looked over by his Secretary; and that all those relating to his Official duties as agent to Mexico were forwarded by the hands of Lieut Comdt A. Moore of the San Antonio, who has probably before this arrived at Austin.

I am informed it is the intention of the Gentleman who took passage with Mr. Treat for this Country, (and who for a long time acted as his confidential friend and Secretary of the Deceased,) to visit Austin for the purpose of communicating to you in person the information Mr-Treat had verbally to impart in case his life had been spared him-

I have the honor to be, with great respect your Obt-Servant
Alex A. M. Jackson.

Hon-
Abner S. Lipscomb
Secretary of State- Austin-

Bryan relative to a package for William Barrow London

No 23. Consulate of Texas.
New Orleans Decr 25th 1840.

Sir-,

On the 13th Inst, I had the honor to receive instructions from your Department, to forward a package to William Barrow Esquire London- It was forwarded as you directed -- I called upwards of twenty times at the British Consul's Office without seeing him- and as the Independence of Texas has been recognized by the English Government, it was not by Col Fox and Some other Gentlemen, with whom, I took counsel, deemed requisite

To have the British Consul's certificate attached to the Documents, consigned. Your package was not opened by me. Enclosed is a communication from the City of Mexico.

Hon: A. S. Lipscomb.
Secretary of State.
Austin

With high respect
Your Obt Servt
Wm Bryan.
Consul.

City of Mexico, December 2th 1841.

J. T. Mills
Resignation as Judge of the Third J. Distt

Sir,

I have the honor to tender to you my resignation of the Office of District Judge of the Third Judicial District. Hoping sir that you will take the earliest opportunity of informing his Excellency the President of the Vacancy in this District, I remain with due respect your most obedient Servant

Hon:
Sec of State.

John T. Mills.

Petition praying a release of Confinement of Neal Arde

Republic of Texas
County of Jasper

October 10th 1840.

The undersigned petitioners beg respectfully to represent that at the present October Term of the District in and for the County Neal Arde, was convicted of passing a spurious Bill or Bank note, for which he was sentenced by the Court to receive thirty Nine Lashes on the bare back, and to be confined closely for the Term of three years in accordance with the decree & sentence of the Court he was punished by being whipped as the court directed — We would further represent that said Neal Arde is a very poor man, with four Infant children to support, that he is an illiterate and weak minded man, scarcely able to judge for himself of the enormity of his offence — that this is his first offence and he being inductionedly inclined — together with other mitigating circumstances induce Your petitioners to believe that his punishment has already been all that should be inflicted upon him — but that the Court was bound by the Laws to adjudge him to the confinement as well as whipping — we therefore under all existing circumstances — now pray Your Excellency to exercise Your prerogative and extend to the Convict that mercy that constitution of our country has given you the power of granting by giving him a release from confinement for the remainder time that he has been sentenced to be confined, and Your petitioners will ever pray &c &c —

To His Excellency
M B Lamar

See letter on file for names —

Petition praying remission of fines of R. Richardson & A. McCafty for fighting

Republic of Texas
County of Jasper

October 10th 1841.

Your petitioners respectfully represent that at the present Term of the District Court in and for said County, that Robert Richardson and A. McCafty

minors, were tried and convicted of fighting. both of the above recited young men are children of poor parents and unable to pay the fines of One hundred Dollars each and costs of suit (about One hundred Dollars each more) and are very much distressed and at a great sacrifice of their now insufficient means, to support their families with any degree of comfort — But the Statute not allowing the Hon. the Judge (under the impression made on his mind by the evidence given in) to fine in a less amount, and the fact being made known to his honor the Judge. that they were young bearing a most excellent character, of good general moral habits, that this was their first offence, that their Parents were good and honest subjects of the Republic, and that the Laws under which they were convicted by reason of their poverty had never been placed within their reach, and that consequently they were not aware, that they were liable to be punished in so exemplary a manner, and that under all circumstances it would be an act of great clemency to remit their fine. The facts having been made known to his honor the Judge after the fine was exacted (at also imprisonment of five days in the Common Gaol of the County) decreed His honor in connection with the Hon S. H. Everett Senator for said County and the undersigned Jurors together with many Citizens pray Your Excellency to extend your clemency in this case, and grant them a remission of their fine and your petitioners will ever pray &c

To His Excellency
Mr B. Lamar — Sir Letter on file for marks —

3

Columbia, Nov. 29th 1840

To His Excellency
Mard G. Burnet
Sir,

During my stay in New York last summer I found our Consul Mr. Radcliff doing us no credit as he was frequently so drunk he could not discharge the duties of the Office. The income from that station is not to nothing; it should therefore be filled by a man of property and character who feels sufficient interest in our welfare to discharge its duties well, as also in answering the many enquiries in regard to Texas by Emigrants although the emolument be small.

Had I thought of the subject previous to leaving N. Y. I could have obtained a letter from David Banks Esq. in favor of John H. Brower, a merchant of long standing in that City who feels attached to our interests, and who is well qualified to discharge the duties of that office with credit to the Country which has not been the case under the agency of Mr. Woodward and Mr Radcliff.

I intended till lately to have visited your city this winter and paid my respects in person but my business will prevent it.

Banks requested me to present his best regards. Please do me the

M. A. Smith
Informing
complaint
in regard
Mr. Rad-
ff, Consul
N. York.

favor to present this matter to the President.

I am very truly

Morgan L. Smith.

Columbia, Brazoria Co. Nov. 30th 1840.

To His Excellency

M. B. Lamar

Sir,

During my sojourn in the City of New York in July, Mr. L. Smith and August last I came in contact with our Consul at that Port Mr. Rad-
cliff and feel constrained to represent him totally incompetent from confirmed
habits of dissipation to discharge the important duties of that office.

From personal observation I am satisfied that the interests of
Texas are suffering under his agency, as they did under that of his pred-
ecessor Mr. Woodward, for the character of the agent is an important
"make weight" for or against the country, in the estimate of the en-
quiring Emigrant. Again the ability of the agent to introduce Texian
Citizens or Government Officers or Agents, to respectable circles, or to Mer-
chants of Standing for the transaction of the business of the Government,
is a matter of no small importance.

Your Excellency may not be aware that the income from
that office is a mere pittance, as the amount of goods shipped from
New York is exceedingly small, compared with the amount from New-
Orleans.

I therefore take the liberty to suggest to your Excellency the pro-
priety of giving the office to a Merchant of that City, of known char-
acter, who will esteem it a pleasure to answer the every day enquiries
of the Emigrants as well as attend to the other important duties of the
Office. Capt. John G. Tod of our Navy is personally acquainted
with John H. Brewer Esq. who I take leave to recommend as perfectly
qualified in all respects to do credit to himself, and to this country in
discharging the duties of that station.

I am so slightly acquainted with your Excellency
that I take leave to refer you to the Hon. J. B. Miller, Hon. William
Menefee, the members from our County, N. Townsend Esq. or any person
from this County, for their opinion, as to the character of the writer.

I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's Obdt. Servant

Morgan L. Smith

General Land Office

Austin, Dec. 12. 1840.

His Excly.

Mirabeau B. Lamar

Sir,

Circumstances having rendered

J. P. Borden

tendering his

resignation necessary for me to retire from the situation I now occupy in the Government, I here-
the office with tender your Excellency my resignation as Commissioner of the General Land Of-
Comr. of fice, hoping that the temporary vacancy occasioned by so doing will in no wise
Genl. Office prejudice the interest of the public or derange the affairs of said Office.

I remain

Your obt. servt.
John P. Borden
Com. G. L. Office.

Austin, Decr. 21st 1840

To the Hon. the Chairman of the Com: on Printing & the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

J. W. Cruger transmitting proposals for the Printing of the Laws & Journals.

The undersigned respectfully proposes to print the Laws and Journals of Congress at the following rate, viz. At eight dollars per octavo form, that is for every 250 sheets of eight pages each. This price is more than 50 % less than the rate lately charged by Col: Whiting & Maj. Bonnell for the printing of this Congress. As he will print this work for one half cent a page at this rate, each book of 100 pages will cost only 50 cts.

He will also obligate himself to complete the publication of the laws within thirty days after the copy is furnished him, and will give bond & security to any amt. that Congress may direct for the performance of these conditions.

He feels a pleasure in assuring the Hon. Congress that he was now on hand 250 Reams of Printing Paper, & as he has the most complete asst. of type in the Republic he can complete the work without delay. As he can do this work as well as any competitor & in a shorter period of time he humbly hopes his claims will receive the candid consideration of the Hon. Congress.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed) J. W. Cruger.

Austin, Jany 26th 1841.

To His Excellency
David G. Burnet.

A. J. Fowler resigning the office of Red River County.

Dear Sir,

Circumstances of a private nature compel me to tender you my resignation as Chief Justice of Red River County.

Wishing the greatest possible health prosperity & happiness of his Excellency,

I am

Your obt. Servt.
A. J. Fowler.

The Republic of Texas
County of Travis

To the Hon. D. G. Burnet

Shff. of Travis to President

suggesting the Viz.

remitting fines

fines imposed on persons in his custody by the District Court of Travis

I, Wayne Barton Sheriff of the County aforesaid, most respectfully represent that there is in my custody several Individuals who have been arrested under writs issued from the District Court, Viz. Washington H. Secretts who has been taken in custody under a writ properly of issued from the District Court of the County aforesaid whereby I am commanded to take the said Secretts, and him safely keep until he pay the sum of five hundred dollars, and costs, which five hundred dollars he was condemned to pay as a fine for the breach of the Gambling Act, at the Fall Term of said court, A.D. 1840. Alexander Coleman and Thomas J. Smith are also in custody under the same charge by virtue of a writ from the same Court. To your Excellency I own that the expense incurred by the Republic in keeping and feeding the said prisoners is very great, and rendered more so by the fact that there is no jail in this County. Nor do I see the least probability of the Prisoners being discharged until the next session of the Court; for I am confident that neither of them can pay the fine. Under these circumstances I submit it to your Excellency, if it would not be better to discharge the prisoners by remitting the fines, rather than incur additional expense by retaining them in custody.

I have the honor to be
your Excellency's most obedient
humble Servt.
Wayne Barton
Sheriff.

Executive order thereon.

Executive order in relation to the suggestion in the foregoing letter.

The acting Secretary of State will cause the within suggestion to be carried out conditioned on the parties paying the respective expenses of their keeping — remitting the several fines.

David G. Burnet.

Matagorda Feby. 8th 1841.

To the President of the Republic of Texas

Chief Justice Talbot (of Matagorda) to the President re Monday in Feby. inst. refusing to his decision

I came into office as Chief Justice of this County in January last in time to issue writs of election for the Civil Officers of the County which the law contemplated to take place on the first Monday in Feby. inst. The returns from all the precincts not being in accordance with the law "regulating elections" approved 26th Oct. 1837 I have proclaimed them informal and illegal — and under a strict

construction of the law. I forbearing have not power to offer any further opinion on the subject of election until I get more power from a letter of the Secretary. The 6th section of the law above cited is interpreted by many of the Legal Profession here that any further action of mine, without your construction, would be illegal. I intend to have an election held for a Sheriff & Coroner, a Clerk of the County Court, and a Clerk for the District Court; two Justices of the Peace and a Constable for each Beat.

If your Proclamation is necessary for me to order another election, that we may have these offices filled by more deserving, especially that of Sheriff will be generously felt, should it be deemed a question of our power.

I respectfully refer you to the office of Chief Clerk. By this information has office is vacant & I believe the first secretary on February has arrived. And on the 4th sec of the law establishing the Jurisdiction and powers of the District Court, no mention is made on return case, for his appointment by the Judge of that Court. The Hon. Judge Jones thinks this is one of the omitted cases and that it is his province now to fill said office until the "regular term" and the word "regular term" he construes to mean the time usually fixed that officers to be elected by the qualified voters, four years hence.

I construe he has power to appoint until such officers can be elected and qualified, more especially as he refers to a time a fortnight to elect on a particular day. I construed that these officers should be elected by the people at the time the balance are ordered on the first monday in. And if you so think you will please announce with the other, in your Proclamation.

I had concluded I could defer my call of Election again for these Officers to be filled, without your proclamation, and had concluded to do, but upon a consultation with attorneys of the Bar, have concluded to defer it until I hear from you. I should be pleased to hear from you, if I could have been on the close of my duty, provided I had done so.

It appears to be, it will be troublesome to the Department, as well as clog the wheels of Justice, for every vacancy, of a Justice of the peace, constable &c. to be over until a Proclamation can reach us.

Our laws are evidently much wanting in sufficiency regarding filling vacant offices of Counties.

Be pleased to give this your early attention, and return by mail, if possible.

Very Respectfully
Ale. Talbot, Chief Justice
Malagorda County.

I have usually construed, that the President issued his Proclamation to have the President, Vice Pres. Senators and Representatives elected. and that these petty County Officers were to be ordered by the Chief Justice. Am I right?
Ale. Talbot.

Executive Department
Austin 8 February 1841.

Hon. James S. Mayfield,

J. S. Mayfield's letter of appointment as Secretary of State.

Sir,

Judge Terrill having declined accepting the office of Secretary of State, and the Congress having adjourned, I am again induced to invite you to that Department. I am very sensible that the emoluments can present but small temptation to a Gentleman whose professional pursuits would afford to him five times as much as the office can confer, and I can only hope for your acceptance on the ground of a laudable zeal to serve your Country. In the hope of an early answer as there are matters of peculiar interest on hand at this moment,

I have the honor to be
Your Obt. Servt.
David G. Burnet.

Victoria, Feby. 9. '41

J. A. Moody requesting the opinion of Secy. of State in relation to the term of Office of County Officers.

Sir,

A question has arisen in this country on the subject of elections of County Officers, to wit. Do the several Officers hold their situations "the time prescribed by law" commencing from the day they are elected, or not. For instance the Clerks of the Courts are elected for a period of four years. This County was not organized until a year had passed after the passage of E. Law; consequently have been in Office but three years. Are they therefore authorized to hold their Offices so as to make up the full period of four years — An early answer is respectfully requested.

Your Obdt. Servt.
J. A. Moody.

Hon. Secretary of State
Austin.

City of Austin, 10th Feby. 1841.

His Excellency,
M. G. Burnet, President of the Republic.

M. Evans, resigning the Office of ch. J. of Travis Cty.

Sir,

Finding that it will be impossible for me to support myself and family in Austin on the fees of the office of Chief Justice of Travis County, I am constrained to tender my resignation of that Office, which you will please accept. and believe me,

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
Musgrove Evans.

8.

Thos. Graham, resigning the office of Notary Public for the Port of San Luis.

San Luis, February 20th 1841.

Sir,

Business of a private nature requiring my absence from the Republic, I beg leave to tender my resignation of the Office of Notary Public for the Port of San Luis, and herewith enclose the Commission bearing date 8th September and 18th November ult.

I remain with great respect,

Sir,

Your Obt. Servant

Thos. Graham

To the Honorable,
The Secretary of State
of the Republic of Texas.
Austin.

Crockett Feby. 21st 1841

James S. Mayfield Esq.

G. W. Jewell recommending the appointment of Mr. Freeman to the office of Notary Public for the County of Houston.

D. Sir,

I am informed by citizens of this place that they are much in need of a Notary Public for this County — there being none in the County. The Chief Justice elected by Congress for the County does not reside in Town, and the consequence is that they have no person to officiate in that capacity, very frequently when it is needed. From what I learn from the citizens here, I think it would be well to appoint one for them, inasmuch as they labor under great inconvenience for want of such an Officer.

A memorial will be forwarded to the President requesting the appointment of a Mr. Freeman to that office. I have no acquaintance with him myself — but from what the citizens here say of him, I have no hesitation in recommending him to you as a Gentleman well qualified to discharge the duties of the Office, and one whose appointment would give very general satisfaction to the Community.

With high regard.
I am your friend
G. W. Jewell.

J. S. Mayfield Esq.
Secretary of State
City of Austin.

At Col. Jones' March 7th 1841.

To the Hon. Jas. S. Mayfield
Secretary of State

R. Searcy resigning the office of Judge of 6th Jud. dist.

Sir,

Having come to the determination some time since of resigning my office of Judge of the 6th Judicial District, I take this opportunity of putting that determination in execution. I have sickness and my commission with me, or else I would enclose it herewith. The office of Judge of the 6th Judicial District is now vacant, and I hope that my successor will find Judicial station more congenial to his taste, and that he will be of more use to his Country than I have been.

I am, Sir, with great respect,
Your Obt. Servt.
R. Searcy.

San Antonio 7th March 1841.

To the Hon. J. S. Mayfield
Secretary of State

Ch. Justice of Bexar concerning the lands appropriated by Congress for the purpose of Education.

Sir,

I have neglected heretofore communicating with the Department of State in relation to the lands appropriated by Congress for the purpose of education, under the hopes that the lands designated would ere this have been surveyed and the field notes duly returned, so far as this County was concerned. Early in the last year, the County Court of Bexar, duly appreciating the liberality of Congress in the cause of education, located the quantum of land for this County, in small tracts upon the river Guadalupe, between the Bastrop and Pinta crossings of that stream, with the belief that a sufficiency of good land could there be obtained to cover the claims of this County, and special appropriations were made for the purpose of paying the surveyor's fees. The applications still remain in the County surveyor's office, and no surveys have been made; the cause of the County Surveyor not causing these surveys to be made I am unable to state.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
John S. Simpson
Chief Justice Bexar County

6.

To His Excellency
The President of the Republic of Texas.

Lieutenant Moore's name. Your memorialist, Alexander Moore Lieutenant, commanding the Texian armed Schooner San Antonio; for himself and in behalf of the Officers and Crew of said Schooner and all others concerned as captors of the Mexican Schooner Anna Maria; most respectfully represents to your Excellency that as Commander aforesaid of the Schooner San Antonio, he captured and brought into the Port of Galveston in said Republic, the said Mexican Schooner Anna Maria, which together with her Cargo, was sold by order of Judge Shelby, sitting and holding plea as a Court of Admiralty or prize Court; for the benefit of whom it might concern, upon the alleged ground that the vessel and cargo was in a perishable and losing condition and likely, pending the litigation, to go to waste. That the said Judge did not, nor has he since decided the said Mexican Schooner to be lawful prize; but claim having been set up by a citizen or person claiming to be a citizen of Yucatan to the said Schooner Anna Maria as his own private property, the action of the said Judge has been suspended to hear and determine the question of prize or no prize; that during the pendency of said question an election by Congress took place for Judge and the Honorable Thomas Johnson was elected to succeed his honor Judge Shelby, that he (Judge Shelby) claiming the right under the Constitution to hold the Office for four years, and Judge Johnson claiming under his aforesaid election have in effect suspended the action of the Court of this District; that in the mean time the fund for which the said Schooner and cargo was sold is believed by your petitioner to be (in part at least) in irresponsible hands and that without the timely action of a Court of competent and undisputed Jurisdiction a large portion if not the whole proceeds of the hardly earned fund to which they are entitled your Memorialist will apprehend will be dissipated and lost to the Captors and the Government.

Mexican schooner Anna Maria.

Your memorialist further represents that an attempt to settle the question aforesaid and enforce the payment of the said fund into Court for distribution was made by Judge Shelby, but his authority was denied and would not be obeyed by the ministerial officers, and upon the advice of Counsel the parties interested are unwilling to risk the question of Jurisdiction between the said Judges. Your Memorialist therefore appealing to your authority under and in pursuance of the Act of the first Congress (1 Vol. page 247) touching the Admiralty, prays that your Excellency will issue a mandatory order to some Judge of the District Court most convenient to the port of Galveston and in regard to whose Judicial authority and functions there exists no question to repair at the earliest practicable period to the said port of Galveston and take plea of and dispose of the said prize cause and that such other appropriate and proper orders and aids may be afforded by your Excellency to protect the rights of your petitioner as well as those of the Republic as you may deem

Court of Admiralty; vol. 1. p. 247. in the case of the Mexican schooner

legal and proper and your memorialist as in duty bound will ever pray &c.

Alex. Moore

Moeggingar & Smyth
Proctors for the Capitors

Republic of Texas
County of Galveston

Personally appeared before me R. M. Johnson, Chief Justice of said County, Alexander Moore who upon oath saith that the allegations and facts set forth in the foregoing memorial so far as they are made as of his own knowledge are true in substance and fact, and those made upon the information of others he believes to be true in like manner.

Subscribed and sworn to before me. Alex. Moore.
Witness my hand and seal of Office,
this 9th March 1841.

(L. S.) R. M. Johnson
ch. Jus. G. C.

Montgomery County, March 10. 1841.

To His Excellency
Mirabeau B. Lamar
President of the Republic of Texas

G. Morrison

The undersigned most respectfully begs leave to tendering resignation of Office of Notary Public which you were pleased to confer upon him, for the County Montgomery, he of N. P. for having removed from the County seat and thereby being no longer useful Montgomery Cty. to the citizens of the County as a Notary; and to recommend for appointment and recommendation to the vacancy Mr. C. B. Stewart as competent and a respectable residing appointment, resident at the County Seat,

of C. B. Stewart

and with all respect subscribes himself

as his successor.

Your Excellency's
Most Obedient Servant
Gwyn Morrison.

To His Excellency
The President of the Republic of Texas

Fr. Trial,

urging the President to issue his

(Report of the Justice's Court of Beat No. 3. in Austin County in the c of the Republic of Texas vs. Mann Adams, charged with the mu of Noah Scill.)

proclamation offering a reward for the apprehension of Warren Adams, &c. &c.

Your Excellency's reply, bearing date of Jan. 29, on a report made by this Court in the above mentioned case I received but by the last mail, March 7. I regret this detention the more, as Warren Adams, the principal in this atrocious murder, has himself meanwhile rendered, as stated to your Excellency by Senator Lester, and probably never will, as the evidence is too strong against him. Only one of his abettors, Riedick Jackson, surrendered. My second report of Jan. 25. stated to your Excellency this surrender of Jackson, and supported that consequently the urged proclamation would only refer to Adams. This latter report I send by Mr. Brannum, agent of the Navy who promised to deliver it to your Excellency directly after his arrival at Austin. It seems, however, it never has been received. As the in rubro mentioned criminal case caused a great commotion among the inhabitants of the Counties of Austin, Fayette and Colorado, many of whom took an interest therein pro and con. The issuing of your Excellency's proclamation would have in a great measure limited the spirit of selfrevenge and been a caution to persons who shelter and assist Adams in his concealment laying themselves thereby liable to the prosecution of accessories after the fact. Two lives have been lost in this unfortunate affair since, and Adams is still at large, looking about with his Gun Shooter, and has vowed to kill some of his adversaries previous to his leaving the Country. The relations of the murdered Scott have to carry arms constantly, to be prepared against a sudden attack, and have therefore made a sacrifice by offering an additional reward of one thousand dollars p. m. praying your Excellency to issue the proclamation forthwith, including in the same said reward. The bond I forward enclosed.

I must leave it for your Excellency's investigation with the General Post-office how it happened that a letter send by the Executive, and of such high importance as that, above referred to, could be detained for 5 weeks on the road between Austin and here (95 miles) We had several regular mails within that space of time from Austin, and consequently our only conjecture can be, that the letter has been willfully intercepted.

I beg leave to state that the Justices, lately elected for this beat, have declined the office. I therefore deemed it necessary to discharge the official duties unless relieved.

Your Excellency's
Most humble Servant
Fr. Ernst.

Industry 12. March 1841.

Republic of Texas.
County of Jefferson

To the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury in and for the Republic of Texas.

Ch. J of Jef- form to Sec'y. of Treasury, re- porting failure of Judge of 6th Jud. District to hold Spring Term '41 of Dist. Court for said County.

I, N. I. Otho Millard, Chief Justice in and for the County of Jefferson and the Republic aforesaid; do hereby certify and report to you that Richardson Scurry, who is Judge of the District Court in and for the sixth Judicial District, did fail to attend and hold his Court in the County of Jefferson on the third Monday in March A.D. 1841, as is provided by law he should have done.

Given under my hand and private seal, there being no seal of Office, this seventeth day of March A.D. one thousand eight hundred and forty-one

Seal D. I. Otho Millard C. J. J. C.

D. I Otho Millard
Chief Justice of Jefferson County

Shellyville, Texas, March 18th 1841.

Maj. Mayfield.

M. F. Roberts, quing information of the state and condition of certain public Co. and promis- ing to take charge of them upon be- ing furnished with the proper authority by the Sec'y. of War.

Dear Sir,

I have a convenient opportunity of writing you a few lines by Mr. Coffy. The People are very well pleased generally with what Laws have been published. I want you, if you please, to send me a copy of the acts of certain public of last Congress if they have been published. If it is not too much trouble, say to the Secretary of War that there are some five or six hundred dollars worth of public guns in this County that are damaging very much for want of some proper person to keep them in order. If he will authorize me, I will get them and keep them together in order. They are loaned to different Individuals and in bad condition. Nothing more at present but remain

Yours &c.
Moses F. Roberts.

James S. Mayfield
Sec'y State.

Republic of Texas
County of Bexar } In District Court
March Term 1841.

Transcript of sentence in case of three Mexican servants, tried and convicted for larceny before the Hon. Jud.

The Republic
vs.
Jose Mc. Reyna
Albino Moreno
Jose Mc. Martinez

On verdict of guilty comes the District attorney and suggests the Court that the Defendant Jose Mc. Martinez the night of the 12th inst. made escape from c and has not been retaken and prays capias for the recapture of said J and, which is allowed by the Court.

A. Hutchinson
the Spring Term of the District Court of Bexar.

And the Defendants Jose Mc Reyna and Albino Moreno being again brought into Court, it is now the sentence of the Court that the said Jose Mc Reyna and Albino Moreno be remanded to prison there to remain until Monday next at 12 O'clock (noon) when at the door of the Court house of this County they receive each on his bare back thirty nine lashes to be inflicted by the Sheriff of this County, the one presently after the other, and that they thereupon be remanded to prison, and there kept until the last Saturday in April next when at the like hour of the day and in the prison the said Sheriff do brand each of them in the right hand with the letter "T". It is further ordered by the Court that they pay the costs of this prosecution, for which execution may issue.

I, James L. Truehart Clerk of the District Court Bexar County do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy taken from the journal of the District Court in the case therein referred to. Given under my hand this 13th day of March 1841.

James L. Truehart
Clerk Dist. Court.

His Excellency The President of the Republic,

Hon. A. Hutchinson, transmitting transcript of sentence in case of three Mexican servants convicted before him for larceny, at Bexar, March term 1841, and requesting the application of a Bar and pardon of part of said sentence.

Sir,

At the last term of the District Court of Bexar county three Mexican Servants were convicted before me, as the presiding Judge, for larceny in purloining a piece of drilling from a box in transportation from Sinnville to San Antonio. A transcript of the sentence appears above. The box was in the hands of Reyna and Moreno, as servants of the bailee, also a Mexican. On the discovery of loss of the drilling the Master put the servants upon threats and promises, which being repeated ultimately produced confessions in consequence of which the conviction was obtained. I hesitated in admitting proof of the confessions, and would have excluded it, but for the circumstance that part of the drilling was found in consequence of the disclosures. After verdict and before Judgment Martins escaped. It was moved by the Counsel assigned to avoid the branding as a punishment inconsistent with the Constitution; but I could not feel safe in overruling the Statute. The whole bar, however, united with me in the propriety of applying to the Executive for remission of that part of the sentence and of all the imprisonment to occur after the reception of the order of your Excellency, if obtained.

I have the honor, Sir, to be
Your Obt. Sr.
A. Hutchinson

Victoria 24th March 1841

Sir,

Richd Roman. requesting a certified copy of Comn. issued to J. A. Moody Clk of County Court of the County of Victoria.

I have to request of you to forward me as early as practicable an authenticated copy of the commission of James A. Moody as Clerk of the County Court of Victoria. The commission was probably issued by your Department in the spring of 1838.

If a synopsis only of such commissions has been retained I should be pleased that you would send me a certificate of the date and the time for which such commission was given. I wish such authentication of the certificate as will become recognized in our Courts of Justice.

My object is to ascertain whether Moody was commissioned for four years, for three years, or the unexpired term only.

Resp'y.
Yr. Obt. Svt
Rich. Roman.

Hon. J. S. Mayfield
Sec. of State

Victoria, March 24. 1841.

To Hon J. S Mayfield
Secretary of State

R H. Bradley, requesting a certified copy of Comn. issued to John McCrabb, Clk. of Dist Court of Victoria and giving his reasons therefor.

Sir,

Circumstances render it necessary for me to ask of you a favor. If you will be kind enough to send me a certified copy of the commission of Mr. John McCrabb who was elected in 1838 to the office of Clk. of the District Court of this County for the unexpired term which term commenced in February 1837. It is of the utmost importance to me, to know whether or not his first commission (if he ever had one) was for the unexpired term, or for four years.

The reason I thus trouble you is this. At the late election held in this County (first monday in February) to elect the different county officers I was elected Clerk of the District Court by a considerable majority over my opponent, the late Clerk (Mr. McCrabb) and after I had been duly commissioned I called upon Mr. McCrabb for the Archives of the office, who refused to give them up on the ground that he was entitled to the office for another year, having been elected for the term of four years. So it will come before the District Court I wish to be able to prove that Mr. McC. was elected for only the unexpired term.

Your kind attention to the above business will greatly oblige me.

I am, Sir, with great respect,
Your very humble Servant
R. H. Bradley.

Cincinnati, Ohio, U. S. of America
March 24th 1841.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt this morning of your official note of the 29th of January ult.